

TOP TIPS FOR READING WITH KS1 CHILDREN

Firstly, every child learns at his or her own pace, so the single most important thing is to make reading enjoyable and fun. It should be curiosity quenching and inspiring-not a chore.

READ ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING.

Read books, magazines, comics, leaflets, recipes, labels, lists, instructions on how to play games or make and do things.

Take every opportunity to read from anything around the home.

Try to read a range - stories, non-fiction (information) texts and poetry.

ENCOURAGE DAILY READING.

Little and often is best, 10-15 minutes daily is great.

Try to organise a quiet time with no distractions from the TV or phones.

Get comfortable and spend 1 to 1 quality time together.

You could have a whole family reading session. Read together-but separately. Make it a time when everybody immerses themselves in their own book.

CHOOSE BOOKS AT THE RIGHT LEVEL.

Help your child to select books that are not too difficult. The aim is to give your child lots of successful reading experiences. This will help to develop their self- confidence.

ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH.

Encourage your child to re-read favourite and familiar books. Re-reading helps children to read more quickly and accurately. In addition, if they know the book well, they can develop other skills including reading with expression and using different character voices.

ABOVE ALL, BE PATIENT.

Give you child the time to work things out independently before you step in with guidance.

I READ TO YOU, YOU READ TO ME.

Take it in turns to read aloud, for example a page or a paragraph each. That way the child hears how the reading should sound. It demonstrates the pace and fluency for the child to copy. This can help with reluctant readers too.

DIG DEEPER INTO THE STORY.

Ask your child questions about the story you have read.

E.g. Why do you think Peter did that?

What would you have done in that situation?

Who is your favourite character and why?

What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?

TALK, TALK, TALK.

Talk about 1 or 2 new words and their meanings to develop vocabulary.

Try to learn a new word every day. Children love using “big or grown up words.”

CORRECTING.

Just pick 1 or 2 errors to correct and work on.

Re-read the sentences containing those words, in order to consolidate learning.

PRAISE.

Talk about what your child has done well and praise them for all their efforts.

E.g. I loved the way you changed your voice for the Three Bears.

You read that just like a grown up telling a story.

I liked the way you used your phonics to work out that tricky word.

STORY TELLING

Children love stories being read to them, not just at bedtime but during the daytime too.

Maybe have a quieter time after lunch to share a story together. It also gives them a chance to read those books that they can't access independently yet.

There are also many storytellers online at the moment including:

CBeebies Bedtime stories (not just for bedtime)

www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses

Reading to children has repeatedly shown to improve their reading, writing, and communication skills, logical thinking, concentration and general academic aptitude as well as inspiring a love of reading.