

So many books to read!....

If your child is reading longer texts quite confidently and fluently, it can seem as if there is nothing new to learn. But the most complex skills are yet to be learned!

Once children reach a certain level in their reading, the focus changes from solving the words on the page (decoding) to developing an understanding of what they have read (comprehension.)

We hope this leaflet will provide you with some ideas of what your child should be doing now and what questions you could ask to help more confident readers to develop their comprehension skills.

Reading is one of the most important skills that your child will ever learn. It is hugely important they read at home regularly (**at least 3 times a week**). The more they read and talk about their reading the more they will become confident with their reading and be able to achieve more at school.

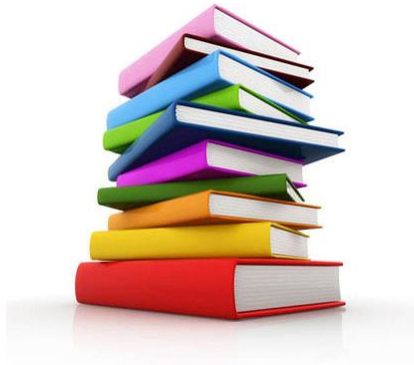
Logging your child's reading is easy. All you have to do is write the date, the book they are reading and add a comment if you wish. As your child gets into years 4,5 and 6 they can even do this themselves.

Please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher or class teaching assistant if you have any questions about your child's reading....we are always happy to help.



ROBERT MELLORS GUIDE: HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH THEIR READING





GOOD READING BEHAVIOUR

When a child is reading, it is not enough just to read the words accurately and fluently. When reading, children should also be encouraged to:

Read with expression- for example putting on a character's voice.

Pay attention to punctuation- for example stopping at full stops, pausing at commas, adding in expression when there is an exclamation mark.

Read at an appropriate pace and volume- e.g. not too quietly or too slowly.

Here are a few questions you can ask your child about their reading. Pick a different 2 each time your child reads. These questions will help your child develop their comprehension skills...a vital next step.

RETRIEVAL

Where does the story take place?

What does that character look like?

Where did he / she live?

What happened in the last chapter?

Who are the key characters in the book?

Where did you find the information about.....?

Read the part that tells me

AUTHORS

You can also ask your child about their favourite authors and what books they listen to and read at school.



INFERENCE

How do you feel about

If you were going to interview this character, what questions would you ask?

Which parts of the book could help you find the information you need?

Do you think this is true / untrue?
Why?

Which is your favourite part? Why?

Who would you like to meet most in the story? Why?

What do you think is going to happen next? Why?

TEXT STRUCTURE

Ask your child to explain the layout of a non-fiction book.

What are the headings and sub-headings for?

How do they help you read and understand the book?

