



Key Stage 2 reading

How can you help your child develop their reading skills?

Even though your child may now be a fluent reader, it is still important to hear them read aloud regularly. At Key Stage 2, we encourage all our parents/carers to hear their children read *at least* four times a week, for 20-30 minutes each day.

Your child may be beyond the 'sounding out stage', however, they still need your support to continue to **develop their understanding of texts**. Your child will bring home books which are in line with their current level of reading skill, but which stretch their reading comprehension. This may mean that sometimes they do not *fully* understand *all* that they are reading. This is where your child will benefit from your support.

Helpful pointers:

- Please listen to your child read **regularly**. 20 minutes, at least four times a week, is better than longer sessions once a week.
- When reading with your child, you should **stop and ask questions** to be sure they fully *understand* what has been read. The next page has a list of suggested questions and ideas to encourage your child to talk about the book.
- Children also learn from **hearing adults reading aloud**. By sharing reading aloud, you can demonstrate some important aspects of reading to your child:
 - **reading with expression and fluency;**
 - **pausing to clarify meaning;**
 - **summarising** the main points of what has been read.

Using questions to talk about the book

Helping your child *to identify key points*

Why did _____?
Where/When does _____?
When did _____ happen?
What did s/he/it look like?
Where did s/he/it live?
Where in the book/story would you find _____?
What is happening at this point in the text?
What happened in the story?

Helping your child *to understand the words*

What does the word _____ mean?
Look at this sentence - Find a word that has the same meaning as _____
Look at this paragraph - Find a word that has the same meaning as _____
What does the word _____ mean in this sentence?
What other word could the author have used, instead of _____?

Helping your child *to summarise*

What is the main message here?
What's the main point in this paragraph?
Can you sum up what happens in these two/three/four ... paragraphs?

Helping your child *to read 'between the lines'*

Look at this line/paragraph - which word/phrase tells you that _____?
How can you tell that _____?
What makes you think that _____?
Which words give you that impression?
What does this___ (word/phrase/sentence)... suggest about... _____
(character/setting/mood)?

Helping your child *to predict what may happen next*

Thinking about what you have read, what do you think will happen next?
Do you think _____ will happen? Explain your answer with evidence from the text.