



Importance of Early Reading

Learning to read and starting school are important early educational milestones. Reading is one of the most valuable skills developed during childhood, but is also one of the most challenging skills to acquire.

Research shows that a child who grows up in a home in which reading and the use of books is commonplace and actively supported, is more likely to nurture a positive attitude towards their learning throughout their schooling and across the whole of the curriculum.

Most children who have early development of their literacy and language skills go on to achieve higher grades at G.C.S.E and are more likely to be eager learners throughout their lives.

A solid foundation in reading is crucial to a child's success as they progress through primary school, into secondary school and then in later life.

Spelling & Listening

Give opportunities and allow time for children to communicate their thoughts, ideas and feelings

Give opportunities to share and enjoy a wide range of rhymes, music, songs, poetry, stories and non-fiction books

Give opportunities for linking language with physical movement in action songs and rhymes, role play and practical experiences such as cookery and gardening

Introduce new vocabulary to your child, explain what new words mean and **praise** them for using new words in their spoken language

Model and expect good listening

Teaching Phonics - Understanding the Terminology

Phonics - the learning of letters and sounds

Phoneme - the sound a letter makes

Grapheme - the written letter

Blending - running sounds together to make a word

Segmenting - breaking a word up into its individual sounds

Tricky words - words that cannot be 'sounded out' using phonics

CVC words - consonant / vowel / consonant e.g. pan cat dog vet

Digraph - a sound made with two letters eg. sh ai oi

Phonetically plausible - written phonetically so that it can be read although it is spelt incorrectly

Reading Strategies

Look at the front cover of the book, can they guess what the story might be about?

Read the title together, does this give them any more clues?

Look at the picture before reading, what is happening, what are the characters names?

Point to the words, are there any words that they know?

Can they count the words on the page

Can they use their sounds to help them decode unknown words

Can they use the initial letter sound to help them decode a word

After reading a sentence can they go back and find the word that said....

Can they predict what might happen next - this may help them go on and read new unknown words

Can they read on and then go back to an unknown word

Can they find a smaller word inside a bigger word that they don't know e.g teacher

Can they break words down into syllables e.g farmyard

Can they use punctuation to make sense of what they are reading?

Can they talk about what they are reading, their thoughts and feelings, can they relate the story to their own experiences

Reading Comprehension

Without comprehension, reading is simply following words on a page from left to right. The words on the page have no meaning. And while people read for many different

reasons, the chief goal is to gain some understanding of what the writer is trying to say.

If we don't understand what we are reading, the reading is pointless

Academic progress depends on understanding, analysing, and applying the information gathered through reading. Therefore poor reading comprehension skills will affect a child's success in school, and in their adult life

Reading At Home

Daily reading time 10 - 15 mins

Quiet place for reading

Follow the reading strategies

Let them see you reading

Follow your child's lead - encourage them to sometimes choose a non - school reading book to share with you, even if they can't read it get them to use the pictures to retell the story, encouraging them to use expression in their voice, look for words in the text that they recognise

Visit the library and find books about things they are interested in that you can share together

Practise reading tricky words by sight

Give lots of praise and encouragement

Let it be an enjoyable shared experience!