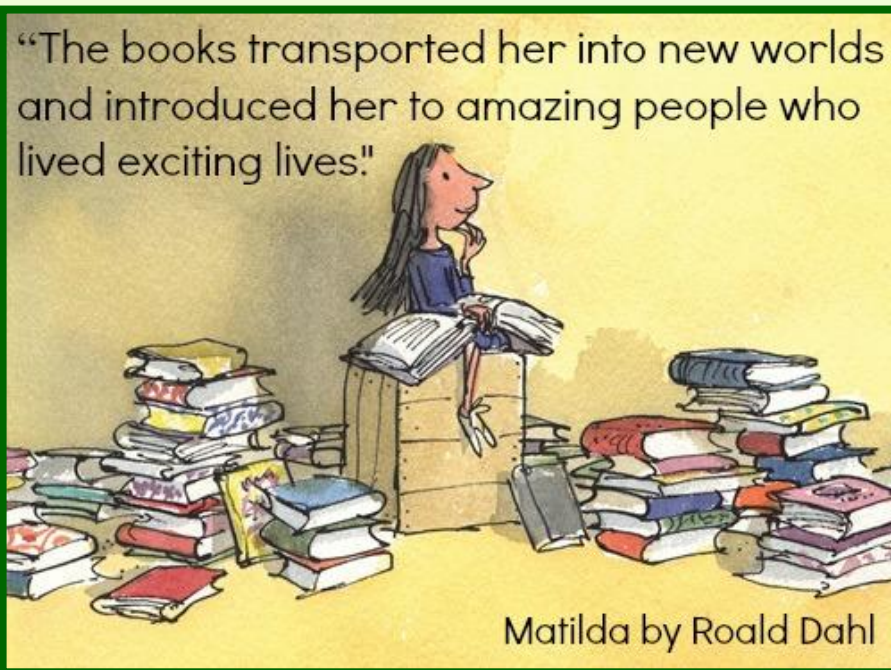




Roe Green Infant School

Year 2 Reading Workshop

Wednesday 24th September 2025



Rights Respecting Schools

Putting child rights at the heart of school life

- **Roe Green Infant School is a Silver Rights Respecting School. We are going for the Gold Award in the Spring term of 2026. We actively promote the rights of the child as set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.**
- **The right to an education links directly to this reading workshop, providing parents with strategies to help their children.**





This workshop presentation covers the following articles:

Article 5: Family guidance as children develop

Article 18: Responsibility of parents

Article 28: Access to education

Article 29: Aims of education



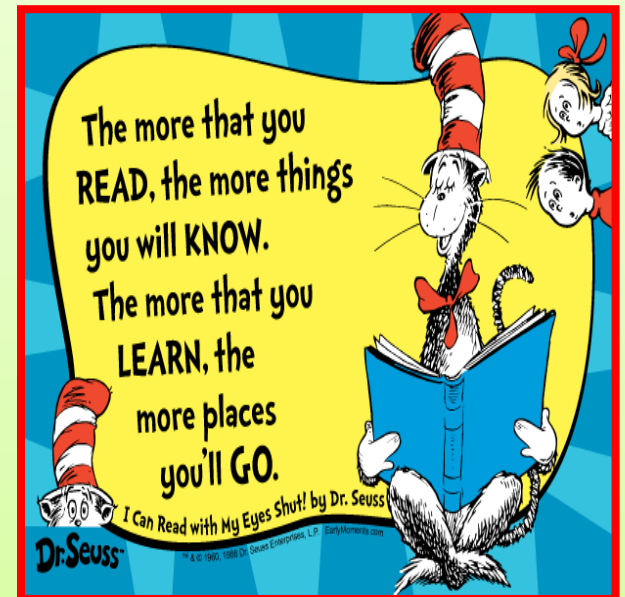
The Power of Reading

The ability to read is vital.

Learning to read is the most important skill children will learn during their early schooling and has far-reaching implications for life-long confidence and well-being.

There are many reasons why we read and therefore why children will read:

- for pleasure and interest
- for work
- to learn about the world e.g. in papers
- to obtain information e.g. recipes and signs



Stages of Reading

1) PRE-READERS:

- Look at books and like to be read to
- Like to behave like a reader
- Learn about words from songs and rhymes
- Learn how the text works
- Use pictures and memory to tell a story

2) EMERGING READERS:

- Ready to receive instructions about reading
- Know the text can be a story or information
- Begin to match written words to spoken words and letters to sounds
- Begin to say words in simple texts
- Use the picture to understand the text

3) EARLY READERS:

- Develop more confidence
- Use mainly phonic strategies to identify words
- Recognise many words and are willing to try new texts
- Begin to talk about the meaning of stories and texts

4) FLUENT READERS:

- Read for pleasure and interest with understanding
- Use a variety of methods to identify words and meaning (phonic, graphic, contextual)
- Read a good range of texts, making predictions and commenting on information
- Relate the meaning to their own experiences and knowledge

Reading Requires Two Skills

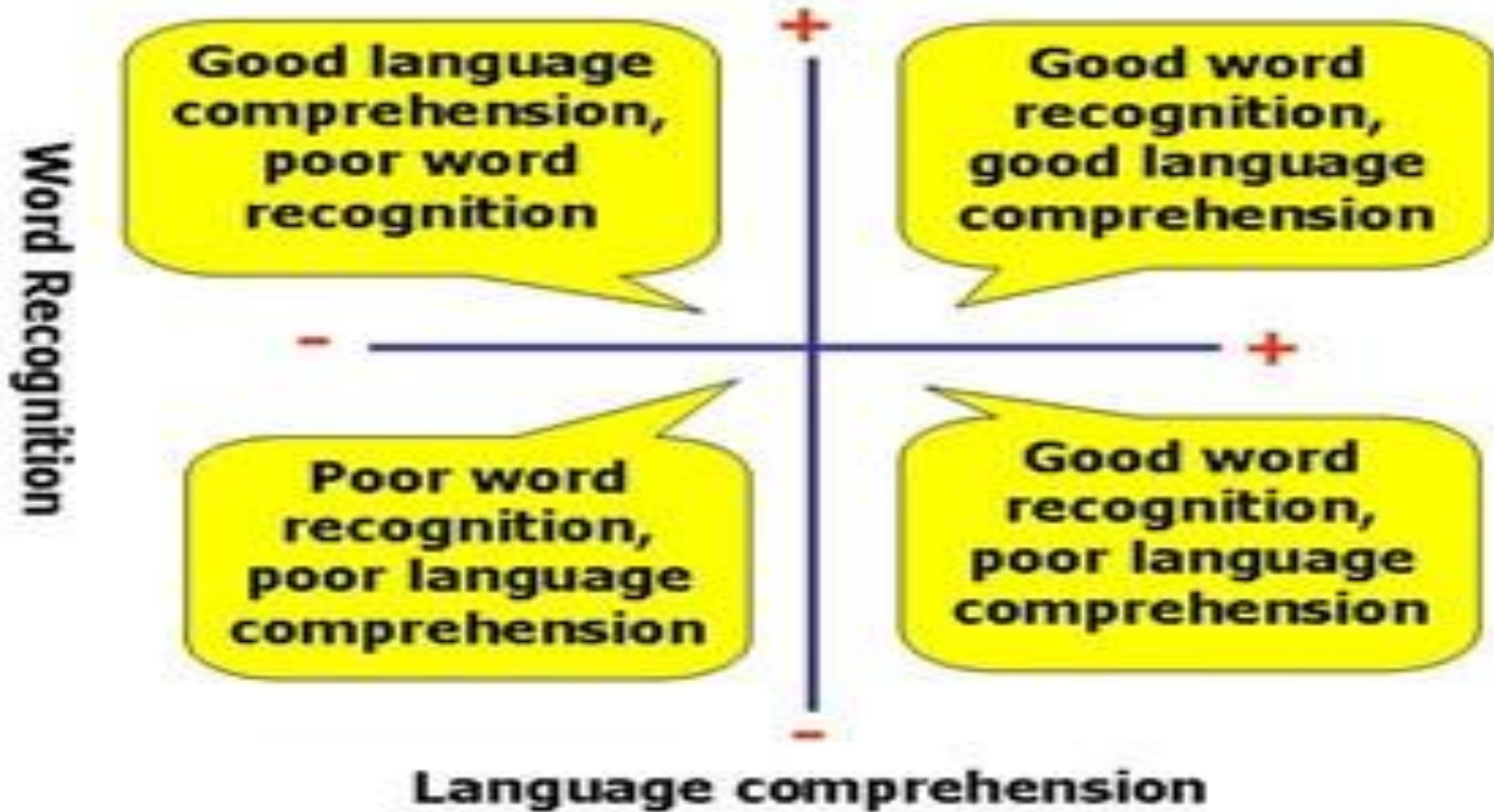
1) Phonics and Word Recognition

- The ability to recognise words presented in and out of context.
- The ability to blend letter sounds (phonemes) together to read words.

2) Understanding

- The ability to understand the meaning of the words and sentences in a text.
- The ability to understand the ideas, information and themes in a text.
- If a child understands what they hear, they will understand the same information when they read.

Simple View of Reading



National Curriculum: Year 2

Children need to develop:

pleasure in reading;

motivation to read;

increased vocabulary;

improved level of understanding.

While in year 2, children must add to this by learning about cause and effect in:

narrative texts, e.g. What has prompted the character's behaviour in this story?

non-fiction texts, e.g. Why are certain dates commemorated annually?



This skill requires deep thinking and is easier for some children than others.

How to Help

In everyday life, model explaining why you have made the decisions you have made, e.g. 'I'm going to leave that there so that I remember it later.'

Continue to regularly model clear reading with fluency and expression.

Share your opinions about a book and explain why you think that.

Discuss appropriate national events and explain why they are celebrated annually.

Explain why people react the way they do within certain social situations.



The Teaching of Reading in Year 2

- Reading in Year 2 is taught as part of the English curriculum. The primary aim is to encourage children to become lifelong readers who read for enjoyment and knowledge. Equal emphasis is put on the importance of developing decoding and comprehension skills. Guided reading is taught on a regular basis every week so that children are heard reading as part of a group.

The Teaching of Reading in Year 2

- The guided reading books used are a mixture of book schemes and real books. In Year 2, dedicated comprehension lessons take place once a fortnight. A range of assessment foci is used including accurate decoding of text, reading for meaning, the ability to retrieve information, to infer and interpret information and to identify and comment on the structure of the text.
- Children have access to our well stocked library in Year 2.

The Teaching of Reading in Year 2

Phonics groups:

- In Year 2, children are taught phonics/grammar
- These sessions teach them the sounds and letters (phonemes and graphemes) patterns which are the building blocks to reading and spelling
- Phonics classes are streamed
- Phonics sessions happen once a day
- Phonics is a very successful way to learn to read as it allows children to decode new words successfully.
- It should be used as part of a language rich environment

Common Exception Words

In Year 2, children need to learn to read and write 64 common exception words (as well as the 45 common exception words in Year 1). They will be assessed every half term to monitor their progress and attainment. It is very important that they learn to recognise these words in the books that they read and to spell them correctly.

Common Exception Words

Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words

Year 1

the	they	one
a	be	once
do	he	ask
to	me	friend
today	she	school
of	we	put
said	no	push
says	go	pull
are	so	full
were	by	house
was	my	our
is	here	
his	there	
has	where	
I	love	
you	come	
your	some	

Year 2

door	gold	plant	clothes
floor	hold	path	busy
poor	told	bath	people
because	every	hour	water
find	great	move	again
kind	break	prove	half
mind	steak	improve	money
behind	pretty	sure	Mr
child	beautiful	sugar	Mrs
children	after	eye	parents
wild	fast	could	Christmas
climb	last	should	everybody
most	past	would	even
only	father	who	
both	class	whole	
old	grass	any	
cold	pass	many	

Teaching reading in Year 2

Guided Reading Sessions:

- **A quality learning time for a small group who are at the same reading level.**
- **The teacher/teaching assistant identifies the next step for those children and they focus on that key skill for one or more sessions.**

Year 2 Guided Reading Questions

Guided Reading Questions: Level 2

How do you know someone is talking in a story?

How does punctuation (e.g. full stop) help us to read for sense?

Who is the main character in the story? How do you know this?

What happened in the story?

Find some words or phrases which tell you about the setting.

What made you choose this book?

What would you like the story/text to be about?

Which character from the story interests you?

Based on the cover, what do you think the story will be about?

What is the main event in this story?

Were you surprised by the ending? Is it what you expected?

Has the author put certain words in **bold** or *italics*? Why?

Can you find any amazing adjectives?

Can you think of another way to begin this story?

What was the most exciting part of the story? What made it successful?

What is the author's view of events in the story? How can you tell?

Did you enjoy the book? Why?

Was there any part of the story or text that you didn't like? Why?

Where and when do you think the story is set?

What sort of book is it? How can you tell?



twinkl

What features of the text tell you that it is an informative text?

What features of the text tell you that it is a story?

Teaching reading in Year 2

Reading Comprehension:

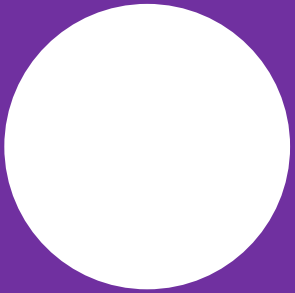
- Reading comprehension is the ability to read text, process it, and understand its meaning.
- An individual's ability to comprehend text is influenced by their traits and skills, one of which is the ability to make inferences.
- Being able to read does not mean you understand what you read.
- Your child might sound like a good reader but may not necessarily understand what the text means.
- The best way to develop understanding is to talk about texts.

READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

In KS1 reading comprehensions, questions will be a variety of the following:

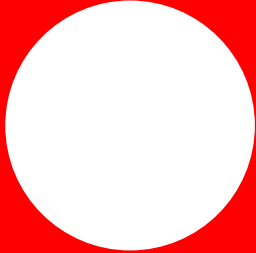
VOCABULARY

Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts.



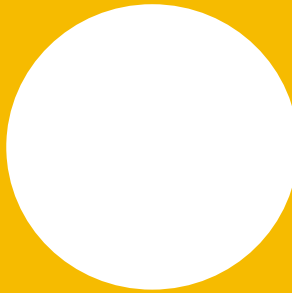
RETRIEVAL

Identify/explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts such as characters, events, titles and information.



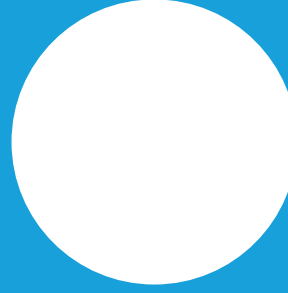
SEQUENCING

Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts.



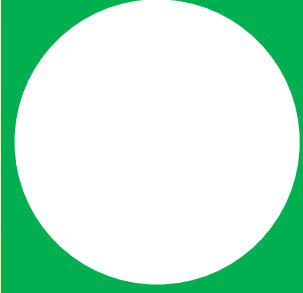
INFERENCE

Make inferences from the text.



PREDICTION

Content Domain 1e:
Predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far.

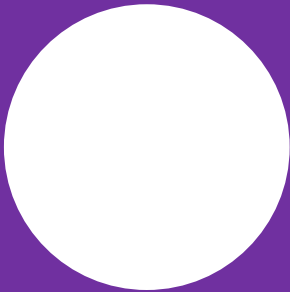


Vocabulary

Children need to explore how and why authors and poets have chosen to use certain words and phrases.

VOCABULARY

Draw on knowledge
of vocabulary to
understand texts.



What does this word/sentence tell you about...
(fiction feature/non-fiction subject matter)?

Can you find a word/sentence that tells you.../
shows you.../backs up what you have said about...?

Why did the author use the word... to describe...?

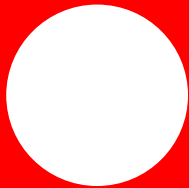
How does this word/description make you feel?

Retrieval

Children will need to learn how to delve into a text and retrieve the facts exactly as they are written.

RETRIEVAL

Identify/explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts such as characters, events, titles and information.



Where/when is the story/poem set?

Is this character a good/bad character?
How can you tell?

Is there a dilemma in the story? What is it?
How is the dilemma resolved?

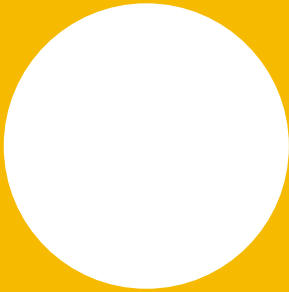
Find your favourite description of the...

Sequencing

Children need to be able to sequence events in a text and to discuss the order in which things happen.

SEQUENCING

Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts.



How/where does the story/poem/non-fiction text start?

Which character do we meet first?

What is the first/second/last step in these instructions?

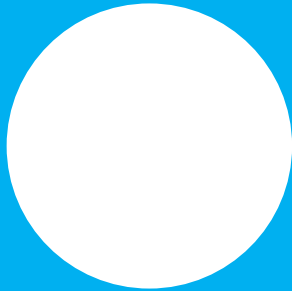
Put these sentences into the order they happened.

Inference

Children need to learn how to use clues in a text to come up with ideas or to make conclusions.

INFERENCE

Make inferences
from the text.



What do you think... is saying/thinking/feeling at this point? Why?

What do you think the author meant when...?

Why does the author use the word ... here?

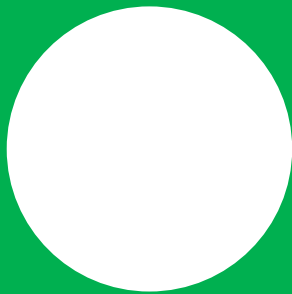
How do you think the author feels about ...?
Find words to back this up.

Prediction

Children need to be able to work out what might happen next based on what they have already read.

PREDICTION

Predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far.



What do you think will happen next?

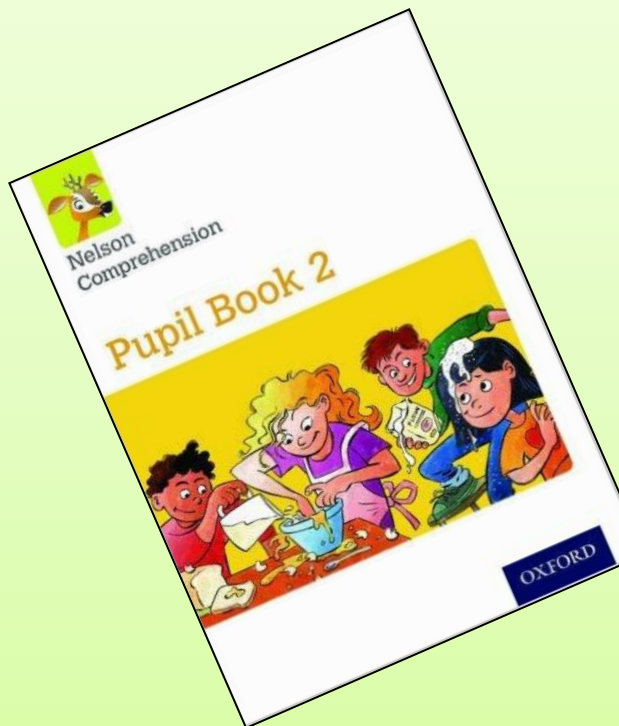
Where do you think ... will go next? Why?

What might you expect to see in this sort of text?

Can you think of any other stories like this? How do they end? Do you think this will end the same way?

Reading Comprehension Teaching Approaches

Children in Year 2 will be taught reading comprehension on a regular basis. For this, they will be using Nelson Comprehension Book 2.



UNIT 1

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Familiar Settings

Making Pancakes When My Mother Was Out

Some friends decided to make pancakes because Mum had said she didn't have time. They thought it would save her the trouble ...

We got out a big dish and I climbed on a stool and reached the flour down from the cupboard, knocking the sugar over as I did it. That was the first accident. You know what sugar's like – it seems to get all over the place – in the bread and butter, all over the floor, and some of it was on Ruthie's head. She didn't mind. She was licking it up as it trickled down her face.


We put some flour in the dish and scraped the sugar into it off the table. There were a few bread crumbs as well but we didn't think it would matter very much because, as Bill said, bread was made from flour anyway. Then Sally broke some eggs into it and dropped one on the floor. I was just going for the floor-cloth to get it up when Ruthie went and stood on it.

'Naughty girl!' I said, and she started to cry and backed away, bumping into Bill who was just taking the top off a bottle of milk so that it jerked his hand and the milk went everywhere, most of it all over my back, because I was kneeling down trying to get the egg up.

'I've got half an eggshell in this,' Sally said. 'I can't get it out.' She was trying to fish it out with a pencil, and the more she fished the further it got stuck in the goo.

Paddy Kinsale


Teach 6




- 1 What do the friends decide to make?
- 2 What happens when the flour is taken from the cupboard?
- 3 What does Sally drop on the floor?
- 4 Why is Ruthie told off?
- 5 What is the pencil used for?

Look carefully at the first paragraph.

- 6 Which word in the text tells us that the children had not planned to make a mess?




- 7 How do we know, at the beginning of the story, there is going to be more than one accident?
- 8 Why does the narrator call Ruthie a 'naughty girl'?
- 9 Which of the children do you think is the youngest?
- 10 What do you think Mum is going to say when she comes home?
Add five sentences to continue the story.



Reading Comprehension Teaching Approaches

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How to Use This Book



This heading tells you the name of the text.

The red questions are about understanding what's happened in the text.


This heading tells you about the unit topic.

The purple questions are about words and phrases used in the text.


UNIT 5 Using the Senses

Cookie Sensations


When I see a cookie in the baker's shop my mouth starts to water and my eyes go pop.



When I hold the cookie in a paper bag the crackle and the smell start to drive me mad.



But when I bite the cookie and begin to eat the sound is crunchy and the taste is sweet.



Teach Terry Wilton

1 What is this poem about?

2 How do we know the girl wants to eat the cookie?

3 Does the cookie smell nice?

4 What does the cookie taste like?


Some of the words in the poem rhyme.

5 Which word in the poem rhymes with sleep?

6 Which word in the poem rhymes with eat?

7 How do you think the girl feels after eating the cookie?

8 Read the poem.
Think of actions for the poem.
Read the poem out loud and add your actions.



My mouth starts to water and my eyes go pop.

The author's name is here.

The green questions ask you to think more deeply about things from the text.

The blue questions ask you to think beyond the text.

Task

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Questions in the book are colour coded to help the children learn about:

understanding what is happening in the text

words and phrases used in the text

thinking more deeply about things in the text

thinking beyond the text

Teaching reading in Year 2

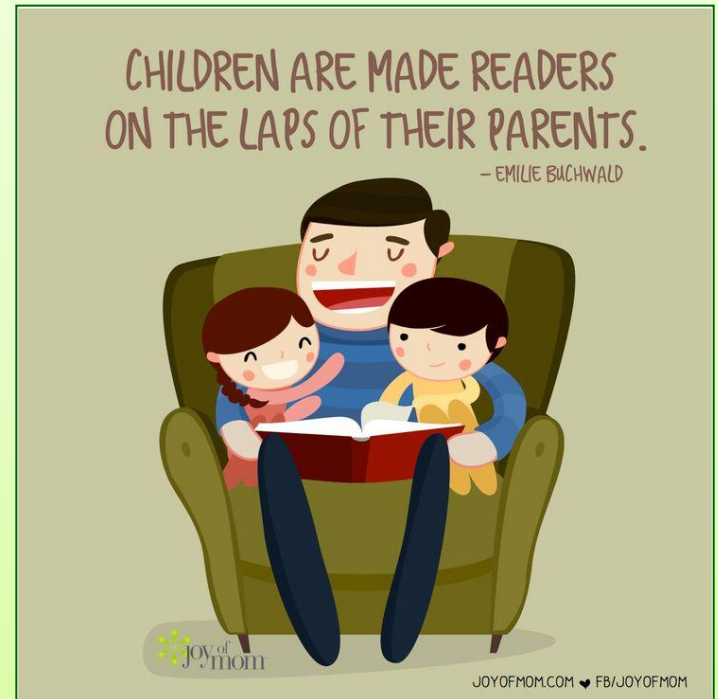
Intervention groups:

- Children whose progress is either below or above age related expectations (ARE) are given inputs to increase or broaden their reading.
- They work in groups and/or individually with a teacher and/or teaching assistant on phonics, key vocabulary and reading comprehension skills.
- At the end of each term, reading assessments are made to see if children are working at ARE.

The First and Most Important Teacher

As a parent or carer, you play the leading role in helping your child move through the stages of reading.

The link between home and school is such an important one – children who are encouraged, supported and taught in both environments will obviously have the best chance of success.



Reading with your child

Taking an active interest in your child's learning is one of the best ways you can help your child to do better in school and in life. Learning is not just about what happens in school. Children are learning all the time through what they see, hear and do.

A little reading goes a long way!

- Remember: a good 10 minutes is better than a difficult half hour!
- Plan a quality, quiet time to read together.
- Ask your child to choose the book. Sharing books that they have chosen means they are more likely to engage with a book.

...and most importantly...

- Encourage your child to talk about their books. Reading is not simply sounding out words on a page, it is also about understanding what has been read.

How can I help at home?

Access ACTIVE LEARN every day and read the allocated phonics and reading books with your child.

As part of their learning, children are allocated books on Active Learn that correspond to where they are in their learning of phonics.

This means that your child should be familiar with the graphemes and corresponding phonemes that are used in each of the books that they need to read.

https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/resources#bugclub_phonics

Top 10 Reading Tips



1. Set aside a regular reading slot time of 10 to 15 minutes every day that is best for your child – this can be them reading a story to you or you reading to them.
2. Have books around the house – books on shelves, coffee tables - as they will illicit curiosity and help your child understand that books have print which convey meaning e.g. story books, information books, recipe books, comics, magazines etc.
3. Family reading time – perhaps not always reading to mum or dad but to aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, pets. Use technology to allow your child to read to family members living far away e.g. Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Skype.

Top 10 Reading Tips



4. **Model yourself as a reader – are you seen to be reading by your child e.g. the newspaper, books, magazines etc. Think about the times that you are seen to be reading. If you are seen to be reading children have a tendency to emulate what their parents are doing**
5. **Go to the local library (in Kingsbury or Wembley Park) – they are full of a range of books that will enhance your child's reading diet.**
6. **Find out how well your child is doing at school with their reading e.g. what level of book they are on, what level of book they should be on for their age at that point in the curriculum. Try not to force your child up the reading scale too quickly. Remember that we want to develop that breadth of reading, not just story books but information books where there are more unusual words and terminology that may need to be explained.**

Top 10 Reading Tips



7. Reading doesn't have to involve a hard copy of a book. It could be on a Kindle, iPad or computer screen. It may be signs in the environment e.g. road signs, shop signs, advertising posters, reading a menu, instructions for a recipe etc. Encourage your child to engage with print and help them when they are not sure. This is a great way of showing them that print is everywhere around us in the environment and how useful reading is as a skill.
8. Communicating language doesn't always mean reading – it might mean speaking aloud, it might mean the expression that they are giving when they are reading books. It might be the intonation and the modulation of their voice and the ups and downs to make people interested and to engage their audience. So it's not always about reading the print of the text but how you read it and how you make the listener engage with what you are saying.

Top 10 Reading Tips



9. If your child is struggling with a word and they don't know how to read it, try using phonics e.g. cobweb. Cobweb is a phonetically decodable word so if you know the phonemes for the respective graphemes you can read the word. Sometimes six letters are too much for children's eyes so you have to break it down. In this example, you may need to cover up the last three letters and focus on the first three, then the last three and then put both words together etc.
10. Share the reading – you read a sentence, a page or a chapter, your child reads a sentence, a page or a chapter.

READING EVERY DAY, HAVING BOOKS AROUND THE HOUSE, SEEING YOUR INTERACTION WITH BOOKS AND YOUR INTEREST IN READING WILL REALLY HELP YOUR CHILD ON THEIR READING JOURNEY. THIS WILL HELP YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING GO FROM LEARNING TO READ TO READING TO LEARN.

What to do if your child gets stuck on a word

- Use phonics first. What sound does the word begin with? Can you say the sounds in the word? Blend them together.
- Read to the end of the sentence. What would make sense?
- What is the text about – what might fit here?
- Does it sound right?
- Look at the picture. Does it help?

How to use these strategies

- John let his pet frog go.
- It ***** across the grass.

What is the first sound?

- It **h******* across the grass.

What would make sense?

- It **hopping** across the grass.

Does that sound right?

- It **hopped** across the grass.

Use Open Questions rather than Closed Questions

CLOSED QUESTIONS

- Do you like this book?
- Do you like this character?
- It's a good story, isn't it?
- Are you good at reading?
- Do you like this kind of story?

OPEN QUESTIONS

- What do you like about this book?
- What do you think of this character?
- Why do you think this is a good story?
- Why are you a good reader?
- What is it about these stories that you like?

Reading Game Ideas

Playing simple reading games will help your child to see the relevance of reading while having fun.

- Ask your child to read menus, notices or posters when you are out and about.
- Play board games that include reading. Ask your child to read out the clues.
- Hide notes with words or sentences on around the house. Encourage your child to hunt for them and to read the notes that they find.



How to further support your child's reading at home

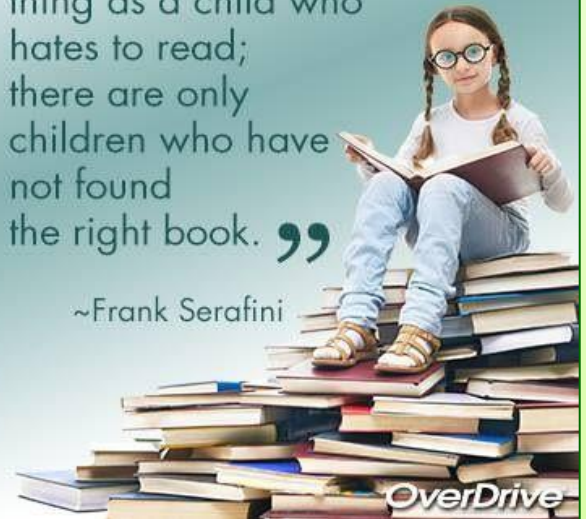
- **Read more difficult books aloud to children of all ages - it helps to keep them interested and develop their story language and vocabulary.**
- **Talk about the text as much as possible.**
- **Discuss the language used**
- **Use direct and indirect questioning**
- **Read together** – (paired reading if children are less confident or, if your child is an independent reader, read the same book as them so you can discuss the text).
- **Read with expression.**
- **Make reading fun**
- **Expose your children to a wide range of subjects, authors, genres and themes**
- **Read a wide variety of texts; stories, poems, information books, magazines, comics.**
- **Relate books to your children's life experiences & interests**
- **'Tell' your children stories – you don't always have to 'read' them**

What if my child doesn't want to read at home?

- Model being a reader yourself (if you read at home it is more likely that your child will want to)
- Try to find a 'hook' – help give your child a motivation to want to read for themselves
- Try to avoid confrontation; find opportunities to give positive recognition
- Offer alternative reading material, e.g. internet access, Kindle, magazines, non-fiction, comics, newspapers etc.
- Encourage reading at different times of the day or week
- Download audio books or buy/borrow books on CD or from the local library and then you could listen whilst in the car or before bedtime
- Allow children to read and re-read the same book

“There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book.”

~Frank Serafini



OverDrive

Year 2 Recommended Reading

For suggested reading for Year 2 children, the following websites are recommended:

- <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-2-pupils-ks1-age-6-7/>

This was last updated on 2nd May 2025 and so is fairly current.

- <https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-2>

This website is good to find books on particular themes or topics.

Useful Websites

- **10 Tips on Hearing Your Child Read:**
www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/readingtips.aspx
- **Mr Thorne's Top 10 Tips For Improving Your Child's Reading at Home:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldbc6fSBUhw>
- **Michael Rosen's Tips for Reading Bedtime Stories:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azRDNDQUjSk>

Year 2 Reading Workshop

Questions?