

How can you help your child to read?

We would like your child to develop a positive attitude to reading and a love of books. Your role in achieving this is crucial. Here are some tips that we hope you will find helpful on how to make reading at home a positive and pleasurable experience for both you and your child.

Developing Good Pre-reading Habits

Always choose a quiet, comfortable place to regularly read **to** your child and **with** your child.

Show an interest in the book your child has chosen from our library skills session.

Initially share books, letting your child turn the pages while you read the text. Don't worry if at first your child tells the story but doesn't look at the print.

You can look at the pictures together and talk about them, pointing out things and naming them. You could ask questions about the story or information book, connecting it to your child's own experience and feelings.

You could predict what is going to happen next in the story.

Let your child see you read fiction and non-fiction books for pleasure and information e.g. recipes and instructions, newspapers and magazines.

Read signs, (e.g. posters, labels etc) when you are out and about. Discuss their importance and how words and letters have meanings.

Let your child borrow books from the local library and visit bookshops, but wherever you go always let your child choose the book.

Anything from 10-20 minutes spent exploring books is brilliant for a young reader and shows that they have got the book bug.

Early Independent Reading

Once your child starts to read words and simple sentences you should encourage them to use their knowledge of sounds to build simple words. This will build on the learning that they will be experiencing in the classroom.

Give your child lots of praise - especially when reading new words, self-correcting errors and reading whole sentences.

Talk about words you feel your child has not understood.

If your child is struggling over a word supply it for them and praise their effort.

Get your child to repeat any word after you have given it to them.

Ask your child to try and guess a new word. If it is a good choice and makes sense, praise them and then tell them the correct word.

Health Warning

Watch out if your child is tired and reluctant to read. Don't force it. Find out the best time of day for your child and develop this into a routine.

Remember, even when your child is reading independently, it is important to keep sharing picture and information books together.

Children also need to hear fluent reading to develop an expressive reading voice so do keep reading to them.

Most of all have fun and enjoy your time reading together!

GREAT WISHFORD C.E. (V.A.) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please ...

... Keep in touch with us.

You can do this daily by writing your comments in your child's reading-log book.

We are always interested in what you have to say -

You are the expert on your child.

And Finally ...

Please come and talk to us if you need any further help or advice.

Look out for 'Wow Moments' and use one of our 'Wow' forms to celebrate your child's success in early reading.



A parent's guide to successful reading in the
Early Years

