



# Reading Meeting

- To provide parents with information about how reading is taught in school.
- The new book banding system.
- What you can do at home to support your child.

Research shows that reading to a young child is the single most important thing you can do to help your child's education.

# Book Bands

All the 'scheme' books have been organised into book bands, each one with a different colour.

Your child's reading ability will be assessed regularly to make sure they are on the correct level. They will then choose which book they would like to read from that colour set.

Different publishers organise their schemes with different systems, but the coloured book bands is national and designed to bring all schemes together with a progression in ability.

# Reading strategies

Reading is taught through phonics.

Some words can't be decoded with phonics-tricky words and high frequency words can be learnt.

They might need other strategies to work these words out, including looking at context, sounding out some of the word if part of it is regular and using that to work out the rest of it, and thinking of other words that look the same and could provide clues.

To help with comprehension, make sure you don't just listen to your child read - ask them some questions about the book too and make observations yourself.

# Comprehension

Comprehension is the fundamental purpose of reading.

We read to understand the images, words and concepts on a page that are the author's meaning and message. If a child can't understand what they are reading, they gain little pleasure from it and it greatly hampers their ability to learn.

# Comprehension

**Literal questions** ask the reader to locate and recognise key words and recall the order of events and cause and effect within the story.

Children are asked:

- to recall facts explicitly stated in the text about a character (name, traits, feelings, variables), the setting of the story, or the time the story takes place.
- to recall details explicitly stated in the text about a single action or event - What happened/ How?
- to recall the sequence of several actions or events explicitly stated in the text.

**Inference:** is an interpretation that goes beyond the literal information given.

**Deduction:** is an understanding based on the evidence given in the text.

e.g. the police find a body with a knife sticking out of it. They can deduce that the person has probably been murdered. They could infer that someone didn't like that person.

# Illustrations

Picture books are suitable for children of all ages and can really help to develop inference and deduction skills.

Encourage your child to answer questions about illustrations.

The illustrations in the Oxford Reading Tree books are a good discussion tool.

In order to be able to infer and deduce from a text children need to be able to decode confidently, fluently and not robotically.

The text should not be too hard for them otherwise they will focus all their energies on trying to decode and get a literal meaning and will miss the subtle clues.

# Top Tips for reading at home

Set aside a special time each day when you can give your full attention to reading with your child.

Building a regular story time into your child's routine will help them to develop a love of books.

# Top Tips for reading at home

Encourage your child to choose a book they want to read. All the children are now able to choose their own reading books to bring home but these should only be a supplement to other things they are reading.

# Top Tips for reading at home

Praise your child's efforts, remind them of the strategies they know and encourage them to 'have a go'.

With any words that your child is repeatedly struggling with, make a note of them and practise them separately before starting their book.

# Top Tips for reading at home

Talk about what you've read.  
This boosts their imagination  
and gives you the opportunity  
to pick up on any new  
vocabulary and check that they  
understand what they are  
reading.

# Top Tips for reading at home

Enjoy reading everywhere, 'think outside the book'!

Words are all around us, encourage your child to read traffic signs, shop names, adverts, cereal packets, TV guides.

E-readers and interactive books are now adding further to the wealth of exciting opportunities for children to read.

# Top Tips for reading at home

Have fun!

Children love it when their parents play with them and praise them. If you have fun reading stories then chances are your child will too!

If you think you need extra help or guidance just ask, we're always happy to help.