

# **TOP TIPS FOR READING WITH YOUR CHILD**

## **KS2**

### **1) CHOOSE A QUIET TIME**

Set aside a quiet time with no distractions. 10 to 15 minutes is usually long enough.

### **2) MAKE READING ENJOYABLE**

Make reading an enjoyable experience. Sit with your child. Try not to pressurise if he or she is reluctant. If your child loses interest, then do something else.

### **3) MAINTAIN THE FLOW**

If your child mispronounces a word, do not interrupt immediately. Allow your child to self-correct using their phonics skills. You can always discuss mispronounced words at the end of your reading time.

### **4) SUCCESS IS THE KEY**

Until your child has built up his or her confidence, it is better to keep to easier books. Struggling with a book with many unknown words is pointless because the flow is lost, the text cannot be understood, and children can easily become reluctant readers.

### **5) VISIT THE LIBRARY**

Encourage your child to use the public library regularly – remember it's free! You can always pop in to the library in Crossgates when you are shopping. You could just spend time reading/looking at books there even if you don't borrow them to bring them home.

## **6) REGULAR PRACTICE**

Try to read with your child every day. Little and often is best.

## **7) COMMUNICATE WITH SCHOOL**

Your child has a reading diary. Please comment in the diary every night to record your child's reading progress. Children can add their own "I wonder...." questions.

## **8) TALK ABOUT THE BOOKS**

There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Being able to understand what has been read is just as important. Always talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.

## **9) VARIETY IS IMPORTANT**

Remember that children need to experience a variety of reading materials eg. picture books, hardbacks, comics, magazines, poems, recipes, instructions and information books.

## **10) READ TO YOUR CHILD – Don't forget your bedtime story**

Children love listening to stories. Choose favourite books or try new ones and set aside time every night before bed for a quiet, uninterrupted story time. Read with expression and get excited about the book. Talk about the story together – the characters, the action and any new and exciting vocabulary.

Overleaf please find some question stems, in the VIPERS style we use in school, that you can use to question your child when reading together at home.

## Question stems to promote 'Book Talk'.

<b>Vocabulary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do the words ..... and ..... suggest about the character, setting and mood?</li> <li>• Which word tells you that....?</li> <li>• Which keyword tells you about the character/setting/mood?</li> <li>• Find one word in the text which means.....</li> <li>• Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to.....</li> <li>• Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that.....</li> </ul>
<b>Infer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find and copy a group of words which show that...</li> <li>• How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this?</li> <li>• How do the descriptions of ..... show that they are .....</li> <li>• How can you tell that.....</li> <li>• What impression of ..... do you get from these paragraphs?</li> <li>• What voice might these characters use?</li> <li>• What was .... thinking when.....</li> <li>• Who is telling the story?</li> </ul>
<b>Predict</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?</li> <li>• What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?</li> <li>• What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?</li> <li>• Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops?</li> <li>• Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.</li> </ul>
<b>Explain</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is the text arranged in this way?</li> <li>• What structures has the author used?</li> <li>• What is the purpose of this text feature?</li> <li>• Is the use of ..... effective?</li> <li>• The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this.</li> <li>• What is the author's point of view?</li> <li>• What affect does ..... have on the audience?</li> <li>• How does the author engage the reader here?</li> <li>• Which words and phrases did ..... effectively?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which section was the most interesting/exciting part?</li> <li>• How are these sections linked?</li> </ul>
<b>Retrieve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?</li> <li>• How did...? • How often...? • Who had...? Who is...? Who did...?</li> <li>• What happened to...?</li> <li>• What does.... do?</li> <li>• How ..... is .....? • What can you learn from ..... from this section?</li> <li>• Give one example of.....</li> <li>• The story is told from whose perspective?</li> </ul>
<b>Summarise (KS2)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?</li> <li>• What happened after .....?</li> <li>• What was the first thing that happened in the story?</li> <li>• Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?</li> <li>• In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?</li> </ul>