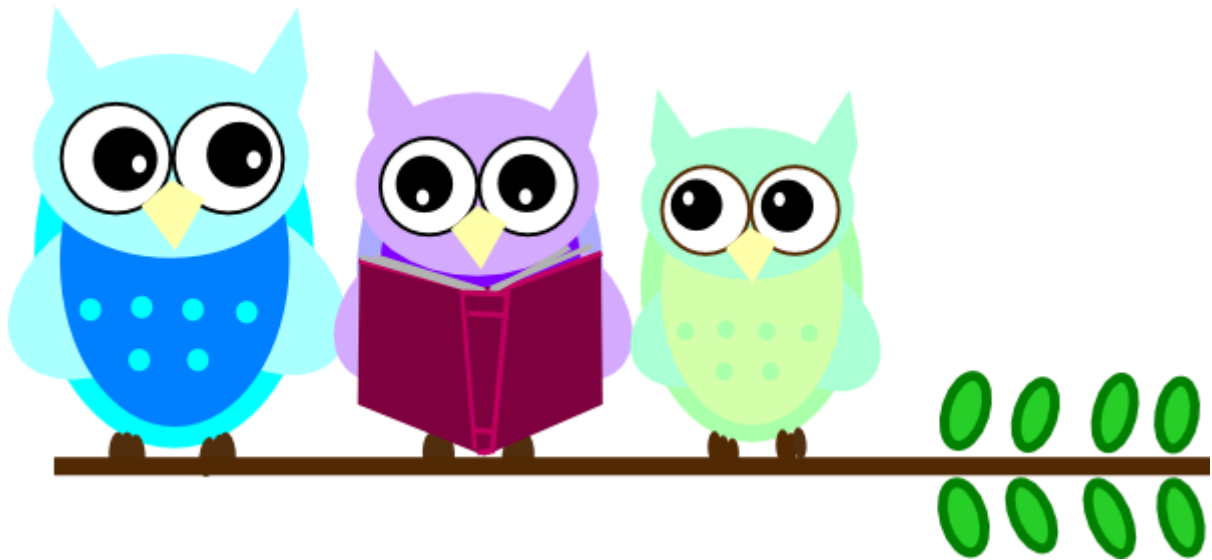


# Helping Your Child with Reading

This booklet contains tips and ideas to help your child to read in a fun and purposeful way.



Created by the Cornwall Cognition and Learning Service,  
Treloweth Primary School, Lanner Primary School and St Day  
Primary School



## Working in partnership with your child's school



*Working with your child's school is so important. The school will want to help you to help your child. If you are concerned about your child's progress, please speak to the class teacher and/or SENDCo.*

### **1. Meet your child's teacher.**

- As soon as the school year starts, find a way to meet your child's teacher.
- Ask your child's teacher who else can help you and your child or visit the school website.



### **2. Attend parent meetings; let your child's teacher know if you have any worries.**

- Write parent meeting dates onto your calendar as soon as you get them.
- You can bring a friend to support you if you are anxious or have to attend on your own.
- You can also ask to meet with your child's teacher at any time during the year. If you have a concern and can't meet face-to-face, send the teacher a short note or set up a time to talk on the phone.

**Remember**

### 3. Do ask questions.

- If something concerns you about your child's learning or behaviour, discuss your worries with the class teacher.



### 4. Encourage your child to recognise the importance of homework.

- Let your child know that you think education is important and that homework needs to be done each day.
- You can help your child with homework by finding them a quiet, comfortable place to work in, setting a regular time for homework, and removing distractions such as the t.v. and mobile phones during homework time.



### 5. Find homework help for your child if needed.

- If it is difficult for you to help your child with homework or projects, see if you can find someone else who can help. Speak to the school to see if they can help you.
- Ask your child's school if they offer a homework club. Or, see if an older pupil, family member or friend can help. Ask the school for resources to support if needed.





## Supporting your child's learning at home

### **1. Be positive about your child's learning.**

- This can help your child to develop a positive attitude toward school. It will also build their confidence as a learner.



### **2. Talk with your child.**

- Make time to talk with and listen to your child every day.
- Talking and listening are so important and will support your child's learning.
- It's also important for you to show your child that you're interested in what he or she has to say.



### **3. Be aware of your child's t.v, computer game and internet use.**

- Encourage your child to have set 'technology time' daily e.g. the first hour that they are home from school is their 'technology time'.



#### 4. Encourage your child to read.

- Helping your child to become a reader is one of the most important things you can do to help your child to succeed in school.
- Reading helps children in all school subjects.
- Encourage your child to use the library and visit bookshops.



#### 5. Encourage independence in your child.

- Taking responsibility and working independently are important qualities for school success.
- You can help your child by making it clear to your child that they have to take responsibility for what they do, both at home and at school.
- Help your child to prepare for each school day, making sure that they have all of the equipment they need.



#### 6. Have fun! Enjoy the time you spend with your child.



Take a moment to celebrate your child:



Write down five amazing things about your child:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

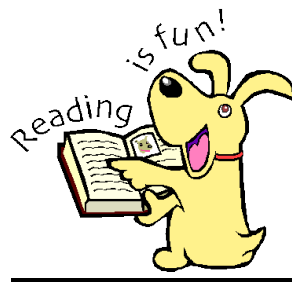


## A brief overview of reading

Reading is the key to learning. Being able to read will open the doors to a million opportunities for your child. Reading is an important skill which will help children to become successful at school. Most of a child's learning is done from reading writing in classrooms or in books, magazines and from the teacher. Once a child can read, the easier it will be for them to learn what they need to in school. The more a child reads, the more a child will learn. The more a child learns, the more they understand. The more a child knows, the more they will achieve.



There are plenty of ways to encourage your child to read. Remember to get them involved by making reading entertaining, fun and enjoyable. It would be really helpful if you choose fun reading games to play (like reading signs) whilst walking your child to school, driving them somewhere or whilst you're out shopping.



Reading helps to develop a child's imagination and is a great way to help your child to dream! Reading can also support logical thinking and problem solving skills.





Bedtime is a perfect time to read to your child. As well spending time with you during reading time, your child is developing useful communication skills by noticing the interactions between the characters in the books. It is also a great opportunity to spend quality time together and bond with your child. Many children, as they get older, have fond memories of times spent reading with parents.



Reading is relaxing. When you're reading, you sit in a silent location, relax your mind, and focus on whatever it is that you are reading. Your brain slows down, and you're normally calm. This comfortable state is fairly similar to meditating, and through reading, your child will learn to relax.



Reading promotes a stronger self-discipline, a longer attention span, and better memory retention. These traits will serve your child well while learning at school.















**WE LOVE  
READING**





## Menu of reading activities:

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Word</p>                 | <p>Picture question game</p>           | <p>Visit a library or local bookshop</p>        |
| <p>Flash cards</p>          | <p>Use a comprehension book mark</p>  | <p>Word/picture/object match</p>  <p>Spoon</p> |
| <p>Car journey games</p>  | <p>Real Life activities</p>          | <p>Personal reading menu</p>                  |
| <p>Reading together</p>   | <p>Special books</p>                 | <p>Changing stories</p>                       |

## **The menu explained...**

### **Word Bingo**

Give each player a board with words on it. The caller reads out the words. If a player has a word he or she puts a counter on it. Once all the words are covered the player shouts BINGO!

### **Picture Question game**

Discuss the picture before the game. What can we see? What could be happening? Players take turns to remove a card and read the question which corresponds to the number on the back. If the answer is yes the player keeps the card, if not it gets put in the 'bin'. The winner is the player with the most cards at the end.

### **Visit a bookshop**

Local libraries and bookshops are a great way to introduce your child to new books. Most have a children's area where children can sit quietly and read or do some fun reading activities for free.

### **Flash Cards**

Use the flash cards to practise reading new words with your child. You could use a timer and set a challenge to see who can read them quickest.

### **Comprehension Bookmark**

As your child is reading, use the questions on the bookmark to check for understanding. Keep the bookmark inside the book for next time.

### **Word/picture/object match**

On a table, lay out a set of words along with the corresponding picture or object. Ask your child to match them up.

### **Car journey games**

Car journeys are an ideal opportunity to chat with your child, make up stories, sing and tell jokes! Practising reading skills in 'real life' helps to understand the role of reading in real life! Ask your child to find signs that you are looking for. Who could be the first one to spot a sign saying 'No Entry' etc.?

## **Real life activities**

Practise reading in real life situations such as shopping, reading food labels, lists, instructions, posters and special offers to find information. It's a great idea to make good use of everyday situations - you've got to get the jobs done so you may as well get the whole family involved!

## **Personal Reading Menu**

If it is a struggle to get your child to read every day, use the personal reading menu so that they can choose which activity they want to do.

## **Reading together**

Make sure you keep a balance between encouraging your child with learning to read and having fun reading together. Don't give up on telling stories and reading of all kinds to your child to help them to develop an understanding and love of reading. If you do that, you are more likely to keep them reading later!

## **Special books**

Explain to your child how special books are so that they value them and look forward to reading. Perhaps you could use books as a reward for really good behaviour or something to save up pocket money for. A story book that is put away for special occasions or rainy days could be something for your child to look forward to. Showing a love for books will encourage your child to do the same.

## **Changing Stories**

Changing stories can be really good fun and will also help your child's writing. Ask your child to read a familiar story (for example The Three Little Pigs), and change the characters and even the setting. The pigs could become birds and the houses could become nests. Use sticky notes on each page to remind them of their changes and then ask them to read their new story to someone else.

## Useful weblinks and resources:

<http://www.readingrockets.org/teaching/reading-basics/spelling> - spelling strategies, app recommendations and much more!

[www.primarygames.com/reading.php](http://www.primarygames.com/reading.php)

Reading Games - Primary Games - Play Free Online Games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/reading>

Reading, English Games for 7-11 Years - Topmarks

<https://www.education.com/games/ela/reading/>

Free Online Reading Games | Education.com

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/fun-ideas>

Fun ideas | Oxford Owl

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) > Home > English

BBC - KS2 Bitesize English - Reading

