

Supporting your child's reading at home – a guide for our Fishbourne families

We are passionate about children learning to love reading! Our school is full of wonderful books, adults who are passionate about reading and who are highly skilled in developing young readers. As families, you have a vital part to play too. As writer Emilie Buchwald stated, "Children are made readers in the laps of their parents". This sums up the incredibly powerful role parents play in establishing a love of reading in young children. This guide will give you the information you need to support your child in learning to read and love books.

Although your child will be taught to read daily at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. Once a week, your child will bring home:



A reading practice book: This book has been carefully matched to your child's current phonic stage. The aim is for your child to read the whole book fluently and with confidence. On the next page you will see how we suggest this book is used. Reading practice books will be distributed once a week. Your class teacher will let you know what day this is. Once your child finishes the reading scheme, they will move to longer texts which will be changed when your child is ready for a new book.

A book to share together: If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. To help foster a love of reading, children will choose a book to share and enjoy with you at home once a week from our school library. Your child is not expected to read this book independently - it is for you to read to or with your child. Again, it is good to talk about the book with your child, but please do not turn the discussion into a test. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters and explore facts in non-fiction books. The goal is enjoyment! Your teacher will tell you which day they visit the library in order that you know when to have your book ready to return.



At Fishbourne, we LOVE to read and inspire our children to devour great books! We have our own Patron of Reading and our own Reading Newsletter - we eat, breathe and sleep books! We would love your children to grow up with the same love of books that is shared by so many of us! Keeping our library and classrooms fully stocked with books is really important and so we invite you to donate a book to our school library if you possibly can. We will put a special bookplate into the book thanking your family for your donation to our school. <https://amzn.eu/j1dFX85>

Using the reading practice books

Day 1 Pre Reading	Day 2 First Read	Day 3 Gaining Confidence	Day 4 and 5 Reading with fluency and comprehension
<p>Talk together about the book your child has brought home. Discuss what they think the story will be about and use the pictures to guide your discussion.</p> <p>At the front of your child's reading book are key words to learn to read. Model blending these with your child. This will develop confidence before reading tomorrow. You may like to practise these by writing them on flash cards or on a white board.</p> <p>Discuss any new vocabulary with your child.</p> <div data-bbox="280 869 436 1189"> <p>BEFORE READING Talk together • Look at the title and cover. Ask: What do you think Chip is pointing to? (the Loch Ness monster in a lake) • Talk about the Loch Ness Monster and how some people believe that it is a real monster. • Look through the book and talk about the pictures.</p> <p>About the words in this book • Your child should be able to sound out and blend some words, which may include: don't by time about day made came make here saw holiday monster • Some words may be more challenging. Encourage or model blending, then read the words below to your child if necessary. oh people looked laughed believe</p>  </div>	<p>Today is your child's first read of their practice book. Before you begin, recap the key words you learned yesterday. These must be known and read fluently.</p> <p>Listen to them read. Remember to give them lots of praise and celebrate their success! If they cannot read a word, encourage them to sound it out and blend it together. If your child has not read a sentence fluently, model this back so that your child better understands its meaning.</p> <p>Talk about what they have read.</p> 	<p>Today is your child's second read of the book. They will now be becoming more confident and have greater stamina. They should be able to read the whole book.</p> <p>Encourage your child to look out for punctuation which aids expression. Model this to your child.</p> <p>Talk again about the story. Discuss the characters and ask your child to recall key events.</p> <p>Helpful Questions:</p> <p>Can you tell me what has happened so far?</p> <p>What do you think will happen next?</p> <p>What type of character is..., are they kind, rude, happy, sad, how do we know this?</p> <p>How do you think the character feels at this point, how do you know?</p> <p>Before reading the next page ask, what can you see happening in this picture?</p> <p>What does.... word mean?</p>	<p>Today your child will be ready to read with fluency and expression, now familiar with tricky words and with secure understanding of the story.</p> <p>Encourage expression, pace and praise reading with confidence. Praise your child for their success!</p> <p>Review the story. Ask your child some questions to check for understanding.</p> <p>Helpful Questions:</p> <p>What was the most exciting part of the book, what made it exciting?</p> <p>What sort of character was...?</p> <p>Why did the character do... (choose a part from the book)?</p> <p>What would you do if this was you?</p>

Top Tips!

- Make daily reading a part of your routine. Select a time and place where you can be focused on just you and your child - a special time where you and your child can love reading together without any distractions. Ensure mobile phones, tablets and the television are not a distraction during this special time together
- Look out for our regular Fishbourne Reads Newsletter packed with super book suggestions!
- Ask your class teacher if you need any advice on how best to support your child. We want to help your child to read for pleasure.
- Model being a reader. Children need to see their parents loving reading too
- Visit your local library and independent bookshops – they are magical places and we need to support them