

## Reading - The key to success!

### Enjoyment

"Reading is great for everyone, and loving books is something that can start when you're very young. We can learn about people and life from stories, poems and non-fiction, and if you read to your children regularly for fun you will definitely be helping them in so many ways." Tony Bradman (author)

"Reading for pleasure is the single biggest factor in success later in life, outside of an education. Study after study has shown that those children who read for pleasure are the ones who are most likely to fulfil their ambitions. If your child reads, they will succeed - it's that simple." Bali Rai (author)

"Books transform children's lives - they can open windows onto new worlds, widen their horizons or even just make them laugh themselves silly! Reading for pleasure can give children the key they need to unlock their dreams." Christopher Edge (author)

### Builds vocabulary and understanding

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out print. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a rich and wide vocabulary. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read. It's important for them to understand how stories work as well. Even if your child doesn't understand every word, they'll hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard.

Useful websites to help choose books for your children to read.

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/booklists/>

<http://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/>

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/100-best-books/>

<https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk/>

## Top 10 tips to help children enjoy reading

1. Make books part of your family life - Always have books around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there's a chance.
2. Join your local library - Get your child a library card. You'll find the latest videogames, blu-rays and DVDs, plus tons and tons of fantastic books. Allow them to pick their own books, encouraging their own interests.
3. Match their interests - Help them find the right book - it doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
4. All reading is good - Don't discount non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines and leaflets. Reading is reading and it is all good.
5. Get comfortable! - Snuggle up somewhere warm and cosy with your child, either in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa, or make sure they have somewhere comfy when reading alone.
6. Ask questions (see attached questions) - To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read such as, 'What do you think will happen next?' or 'Where did we get to last night? Can you remember what had happened already?'
7. Read whenever you get the chance - Bring along a book or magazine for any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's surgery.
8. Read again and again - Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.
9. Bedtime stories - Regularly read with your child or children at bedtime. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with your child.
10. Rhyme and repetition - Books and poems which include rhyme and repetition are