



READING WITH YOUR YEAR 5 CHILD

Often parents ask how they can develop the reading skills of children who are already fluent readers.

The best way is to continue to share books with your child, we suggest listening to them read at least twice a week, you reading to them as well as discussing the books to increase understanding.

This leaflet will give an outline of the key areas of reading and questions you could ask to help your child's development.

Skills

Decoding

The process of reading the print and the first step in a child's reading journey. However, even fluent readers can come across unfamiliar words and it is useful to discuss a range of strategies to help them decode and understand the meaning of unfamiliar words.

Retrieval and recall

The ability to locate important information and to retell stories and describe events. Children need to develop their skimming and scanning skills as well as retelling the events succinctly.

Inference

The ability to read between the lines. Encourage children to make deductions based on clues within the text, using the text to justify their ideas.

Structure and organisation

The understanding of the features and layout of various texts and the ability to discuss why a wide range texts are organised differently.

Language

The development of the children's thinking about the language choices made by writers, thinking about reasons for those choices and the effect they have on the reader. In addition, discussing alternative choices which will help widen their own vocabulary.

Purpose and viewpoint

Who is the narrator in this story? What does the writer of this biography feel about their subject? Newspapers and advertisements are a good source for lively discussions!

Making links

Good readers will connect the book they are reading with real like experiences, with other books and films as well as the time period the book was set.

Questions

We suggest picking two or three questions to ask each time you read together.

- What has happened in the story so far?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Tell me about one important event that happened that could not be left out? Why is it so important?
- What does this word/phrase mean? Suggest 2 alternative words the author could have used.
- Pick 3 favourite words or phrase from what we have read. Why did you choose them?
- Find two words that describe the setting?
- Find two words that tell you how (character) is feeling/are.
- Who is your favourite/least favourite character? Why?
- Do you think the author intended you to like/dislike the character? How do you know?
- How does (character) feel at...? How do you know? What does that tell us about the character?
- Would you change any part of the story? How?
- Would you change any of the characters? How?
- Which part of the story is the funniest/scariest/happiest? Find evidence in the text to justify your thoughts.
- What is the genre of the book? (see below)
- What are the features that make you think this?
- Would you like to read another book by this author? Why/why not?

There is a wide variety of excellent books for your children to enjoy as well as challenging their reading. Please find below a few links to recommended books.

[Literary Trust popular titles](#)

[School Reading List](#)

[Book Trust book list](#)

Books can be classified into different genres, however one book may be linked to two or three different genres. Below is an outline of the main genres:

Adventure	Animal stories	Fantasy	Magazine/newspaper
Spy adventure	Traditional tale	Contemporary fiction	Myths or legends
Science fiction	Classic literature	Biography	Mystery novels
Historical	Non-fiction book	Poetry	Diaries

Please remember **you** the most influential role model so why not let them ask you some questions about your shared reading. We hope this is helpful and please enjoy the wonderful experience of reading with your child.