



A guide to support reading at home - KS2

At Tickton CE Primary we acknowledge that reading is not just an essential life skill but also a gift that can enhance imaginations and offer a world of learning and enjoyment. Therefore, reading is the main focus for much of the homework we set. Reading at home is often important preparation for our guided reading sessions, therefore it is essential that home reading is happening to enable your child to fully access the curriculum. It should take high priority and be given time and attention. You can make all the difference to your child's success!

In years three to six, children should read at home at least three times a week. One of the books should be their guided reading book and they will be told which pages they should read in preparation for lessons. The other two can be any reading material that they choose but should still be recorded in their home reading record and signed by an adult so that we can reward the children in school.

How can you help your child to succeed with reading? Families have asked how they can encourage children to read at home. Here are some suggestions from the National Literacy Trust website that could help.

Read yourself! Show a good example by talking about the reading you do at work and at home. Let your child know that reading is an important part of your life.

Keep books safe. Make your child their own special place to keep their books in their bedroom.

Visit your library - it's free to join! As well as taking out story books, use visits to the library as a time to find books and CD ROMs about your child's hobbies and interests.

Make time to read. Set aside a time for reading for the family - after school or before bedtime. Encourage independent reading but don't be afraid to still tell a bedtime story.

Don't just read books. Encourage your child to read newspapers, TV guides, comics and magazines. Ask your child to find out information from the Internet, cookery books, etc.

Let your child read with younger children. Encourage them to read to other members of the family.

Keep in touch with school. Make sure your child swaps their home reading books regularly at school and try to make a regular time slot of about 10 minutes to hear them read.

If English is not your family's first language: You can buy dual language books. You can talk about books and stories in any language.

Be positive! Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes.

Give them time. Let them make a guess before you tell them the word. Let them read to the end of the line before correcting their mistakes. It doesn't matter if you have to tell them the word sometimes.

Spot words inside words. Help them to spot words they know within larger more complicated words.

Let them read their favourites. Don't worry if they only read one kind of book. If they are really stuck, ask the librarian or teacher to suggest something else they might like.

Make the story come to life. Encourage your child to read with expression. This will help them read more fluently.

Ask lots of questions about the story. What would you have done if you were.....? Does this book remind you of anything that has happened to you? Can you guess what is going to happen next?

Use a dictionary. Buy a simple dictionary and use it to check the meanings of new words.