

Developing Reading in Key Stage One

Continue to share



Children still very much enjoy looking at a range of picture books, story books and non-fiction books so keep sharing books together. Children may want you to read to them, share reading or read to you. Go with what the child requests that day. Continue to read old favourites from home but also add in new books and books from school. If children want to read a more challenging book, read it to them or turn take a page at a time. This is a great way for children to build up the confidence to try challenging books. Remember, the more language children are exposed to at an early age, the wider their vocabulary will be.

Keep reading exciting

Children will still enjoy listening to you read with different voices, expression and volume. By changing your voice, you will make the words sound more exciting and you can really build up tension. You may even want to end reading on a cliff-hanger so they are desperate to find out what will happen the next day!



Don't dive in too soon



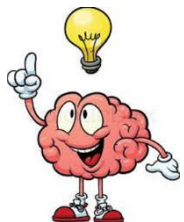
Excite your child about the book before you open it. Talk about the title, the pictures and the information on the cover (front and back). This will help children begin to develop both questioning and predicting skills. If the chosen book is an old favourite, discuss alternative illustrations which could go on the front cover or ask for a summary of the main events.

Silent reading

At school, children will be learning how to read silently, this isn't as easy as it sounds! Encourage times where children read silently, it could be when you are reading your own text. Silent reading shows independence and more effortless reading.



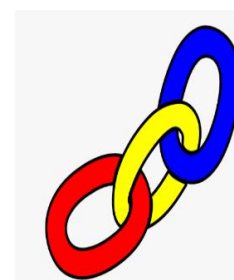
Opinions are good



Children are full of opinions so let them share theirs about the texts they have read. Talk about what they liked and didn't like about a story or character in fiction books. Discuss which pieces of information they found the most interesting and why from non-fiction books. Discuss any parts you liked or didn't like as this shows children that we don't like everything we read and this helps us to choose books more carefully.

Make links

A really important skill for children to develop is to link information they read to their own experiences. This allows children to understand that people have a range of similar life experiences and also very different life experiences. You can prompt discussion through asking questions like: '*Do you remember when we did that ...?*' or '*What did we do when we went ...?*' Encourage children to ask you questions such as: '*Is that how everyone does that?*'



Tackle tricky words

Children will now know many words by sight. However, when they face a new or tricky word, they will use their phonic skills to sound out and blend so keep encouraging this. They may now also be chunking letters or syllables within a word e.g. *walk-ing* or *butt-er-fly*.

Make a text come to life

Some children will really enjoy performing poems, short stories or sharing facts they have learnt. Performing or reading to a younger sibling or other family members is a great way for children to show what they have understood from reading. Children are required to learn short poems by heart at school so the sooner they develop these skills, the better. Making a sound/video recording is also a great way to encourage performances.

