



Reading Newsletter Spring 1 2022

BookTrust HomeTime

Looking for something fun as a family? Enjoy story time with our free online books, play games, win prizes, or test your knowledge in our book-themed quizzes.



Cressida reads How to Seize a Dragon's Sword: Final chapter

Book Trust

BookTrust Home time has a great selection of activities that encourages children and supports parents with reading at home. You'll find brilliant authors reading their stories, illustrators teaching you how to draw some of their top characters and lots of other fun stuff. There's something for everyone. You'll also find top tips for setting up a bedtime routine and enjoying stories as a family.



I Am A Tiger drawalong

Oxford Owl

We know that buying books for home can be costly and so why not visit the Oxford Owl website? It is a great site, offering advice and tips but they also have a range of free ebooks for parents if you create a log in. The books are banded into ability levels so please ask the class teacher for some advice if you need it. For the older children, they can browse and chose the text they would like to read, however for early readers, the books may contain phonics that they have not yet been taught so your child may need some additional support. These books the perfect opportunity to sit together and just share a book for pleasure and talk about the text.

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/?view=image&query=&type=book&age_group=&level=&level_select=&book_typ



"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



As parents, we all want the best for our children. We're probably all aware that it's important to make sure they are confident, fluent readers who enjoy reading, but often it's hard to know how to support them.

If your child enjoys reading, then reading together is a joy. However, we are aware that some children find reading more of a challenge and so it can become a sticking point in the household. We are including some top tips to support you to overcome the barriers to reading together. We want to support you at home as much as possible so please always ask your class teacher for support. There is plenty of information and video clips on our website too.

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1** Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

- 2** Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3** Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4** Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5** Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6** Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7** Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'