



# Reading Tips for Year 1 Parents



# **General Top Tips for Year 1 Reading**

Your child is building up a range of reading skills. Now it's all about gaining more confidence so take a look at these top tips to help you get a good balance of reading for enjoyment and skills practice.

We expect all children in Year 1 to read at home every day. Please sign the diary when you have read with your child.

## **Tip 1: Listen to your child read.**

Books that your child brings home from school will be at the right level. These books are written to ensure steady progress and success. There are helpful notes and tips inside the front covers of many of the reading books.

## **Tip 2: Sound it out.**

If your child gets stuck on a word, try phonics first. Get your child to say the letter sounds and to then blend the sounds to read the word. Some words are tricky and cannot be blended. These are known as 'tricky words' and are taught discreetly in phonics lessons.

## **Tip 3: Read it again.**

Don't be afraid to reread the sentence. Your child might sometimes sound 'robotic' on the first read of a sentence or a page. This is because they are focusing on making sounds into words. To keep your child hooked into the story read it again. This helps with meaning, flow and confidence.

## **Tip 4: Read, read, read!**

It's really important to read as much as possible with your child. Read books from school and books and magazines from home. Read signs and notices, and find interesting web-sites to read. Keep reading together at bedtime too!

## **Tip 5: Join the Library!**





## **Possible Questions to support understanding**

To support a child's reading, you can ask questions before reading and after reading such as:

**“What do you think the book might be about?”**

**"Where does the story take place?"**

**"Who are the characters in the story?"**

**“How do you think the character is feeling?”**

**“Who is your favourite character. Why?”**

**“What do you think will happen next?”**

**“Can you retell the story in your own words?”**

Also:

Discuss the vocabulary. Are there any unusual words that the children may not know?

Look for other information in the illustrations. Sometimes the illustrators add some fun details.

See if your child can make any links between stories for example, similar themes, characters or settings.





## Useful Links

There are lots of resources online to support you with ideas.  
Here are a few.

[BBC Bitesize](#)

[CBeebies Bedtime Stories](#)

[Oxford Owl](#)

[How to Read to Children](#)

[Phonics Play](#)



Please ask your child's teacher if you have any questions yourself or would like more support.

