

The logo features a circular emblem with a tree in the center, surrounded by the words 'GEM' and 'CHOCOLATE'. The text 'Reading At Home' is at the top, 'KS1' is in the middle, and 'Parent Guide' is at the bottom, all in a blue, rounded font.

Reading At Home

KS1

Parent Guide

Reading with your child – Top Tips

Reading with your children at home not only lets them practise new words and sounds, but it can also help to improve their reading comprehension skills. We recommend that you have your child read to you every day if possible.

As your child progresses through Keystage 1, there is an increased focus on **reading comprehension**, when your child reads and then are asked questions around the story or text. Doing the same at home will not only prepare them for this specifically, but is generally a great habit to get into as it will help turn them into enthusiastic, critical, mindful readers who enjoy and appreciate books on an intellectual level.

Below are some questions to get you started. Once you get used to incorporating such questions into the routine, they'll come naturally!

Questions while selecting a book:

- Why did you want to read this book?
- Do you like the book cover? What do you like about it?
- Have you read any other books by this author?
- Is the author also the illustrator of this book?
- What do you think this book might be about?

Questions prior to reading the book:

- What is the title of this book?
- Who are the author and illustrator?
- Does the picture on the cover give us any clues as to what the story might be about?
- (Read the blurb on the back of the book together.)
What clues does this give us? Does it sound like an exciting/sad/happy story?

Questions while reading the book:

- What has happened so far? What do you think might happen next?
- What can you see in the pictures? Are they helping to tell the story?
- Which character is your favourite? How would you describe them?
- How would you feel if that happened to you?

Character questions:

- What do we learn about X in the beginning of the story?
- What do we know about X by the end of the story?
- Who are the main characters in the story? Would you like to be any of the characters? If so, why?
- How would you feel if you were X at that part of the story?
- How did X feel when... ?

Plot questions after reading the book:

- What happened in the beginning?
 - What happened next?
 - What happened at the end of the story?
 - At what point in the story did we realise....?
- Did you enjoy this story?
 - Did the illustrations help you to enjoy and understand the story?
 - Did it remind you of any other stories we've read together? What were the similarities?
 - What did you like/dislike the most?
 - Did any parts of the story make you laugh? Why?
 - Which was your favourite bit? Why?
 - Were there any words or sentences in the book that you particularly enjoyed?
 - Were any of the words written in capital letters/bold/italics? If so, why?
 - Would you like to read another book by this author?
 - Did the story remind you of anything that has happened to you?

Words and concepts to introduce and use when reading stories with your child:

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|--|----------------------|
| • Author | • Character |
| • Illustrator | • Opening/ Beginning |
| • Blurb | • Middle |
| • Title | • End |
| • Illustrations | • Fiction |
| • Sentences | • Story-starts |
| • Emotion words (e.g.,
scared, exciting,
shocking) | • Describing |