



# PROMOTING ORACY

The Richard Crosse Primary School

A Guide for Parents & Carers

# What is Oracy?

**Oracy** is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding, and engage with others through spoken language.

In school, it's about learning *to* talk and learning *through* talk. It's as important as reading and writing.

- **Physical:** Voice and body language.
- **Linguistic:** Vocabulary and structure.
- **Cognitive:** Content and reasoning.
- **Social:** Turn-taking and listening.



# Oracy at Richard Crosse



## Discussion

We use class debates and "Talk Partners" to encourage students to express their opinions respectfully.



## Presenting

Students have regular opportunities to present their work to peers, building confidence and clarity.



## Active Listening

We teach that listening is an active skill. Students learn to build on or challenge others' ideas constructively.

# Why it Matters



Strong oracy skills lead to:

- ✓ Increased academic achievement across all subjects.
- ✓ Improved self-confidence and well-being.
- ✓ Better social relationships and empathy.
- ✓ Essential skills for future careers and life.

*"Talk is the foundation of learning."*



# Promoting Oracy at Home

Simple changes to daily routines can make a huge  
difference.

# Activity 1: The Dinner Table



## Make Mealtime "Talk Time"

Turn off the TV and put phones away. Use open-ended questions to spark conversation:

- "What was the funniest thing that happened today?"
- "If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?"
- "Tell me something new you learned."



# Activity 2: Book Talk

## Read Together & Discuss

Reading isn't just about the words on the page. Pause and discuss the story.

- **Predict:** "What do you think will happen next?"
- **Empathize:** "How do you think that character feels?"
- **Review:** "What was your favorite part and why?"



# Activity 3: Fun Word Games



## I Spy

Use descriptive language. "I spy something that is smooth, round, and red." Encourages vocabulary use.



## 20 Questions

One person thinks of an object, others ask yes/no questions to guess it. Great for logical thinking.



## Word Association

Start with a word (e.g., "Dog").  
Next person says a related word ("Bone"). Keep the chain going!



# Useful Resources



For more information on how to support your child's speaking and listening skills, visit:

- ✓ **Voice 21:** The national charity for oracy in education. <https://voice21.org/>
- ✓ **National Literacy Trust:** <https://literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/oracy-report/>
- ✓ **Talking Point:** <https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/>