



Top 5 Tips

to support your reluctant reader at home

These strategies are appropriate for children between 9 and 16 years of age who can't read fluently and therefore choose not to read.

1

Little and more often

Reduce the amount of time you expect your child to read. 3-5 minutes at a time is perfect. Rather focus on your child **UNDERSTANDING** what he/she reads. Ask him/her to explain it to you...

2

Break the traditional view of reading

- While we would love our children to pick up a book and read for hours, realistically, this might be a long way off.
- In the meantime, reading opportunities are everywhere, everyday! Read the manual for your new PS5, read the recipe to make 'banana bread', read the back of the cereal box, read the road signs etc
- Ask your child to teach YOU something (read and then explain).

3

Get visual

- Books that have text and pictures alongside each other are best (such as Diary of a Wimpy Kid). See 'useful resources' below for links to graphic novels and comics
- Comics are great too
- Ask your child to read a short paragraph and then draw the picture (read and then explain).

Remember to encourage a positive and happy relationship with reading.

5

Final and most important tip...

Read TO and WITH your child

- No matter the age of you child, this is vital for vocabulary growth and exposure to sentence structure that we don't speak but your child will need to know in school
- You can read a sentence or paragraph and then let your child read one if he/she feels ready (take turns)
- Stop every now and then to discuss what you've been reading
- Do this as often as possible.

4

What is your child interested in?

Would you pick up and read something that doesn't interest you? Probably not! Find whatever your child is interested and find the text that matches it.



Some useful resources:

Graphic Novels for teenagers: <https://bit.ly/3c7Felu>

Teenage friendly comics: <https://bit.ly/2SDE9R3>

First News - current affairs for teens: www.firstnews.co.uk