



*Barrowby Church of England Primary School*

# Key Stage 2 Reading: Supporting your Child at Home

*How do I encourage my child to read?*

## Reluctant readers

- Consider what your child already enjoys – do they enjoy animals, space, the human body or computer games?
- Explore alternatives to fiction – many children just don't enjoy 'made up' stories. Think about non-fiction, joke books, magazines, newspapers and even books linked to films or TV series.
- Picture books aren't just for pre-schoolers – lots of children and adults really enjoy looking at quality illustrations when reading. Many have quite sophisticated themes, provoking lots of discussion and opportunities to practice a range of reading skills such as inference and deduction.
- Consider comic-strip books – if picture books no longer appeal but your child loves artwork, try classics like Tintin or Asterix .
- Above all, **be involved** – reading should not be just a solo activity and can be enjoyed with family and friends. Choose a book together, take it in turns to read to each other and talk about it!

*What types of books should my child read?*

## Wrong kinds of books?

- Gentle encouragement to read a wider range of genres and authors (perhaps using interests as a starting point).
- Lead by example – if your child sees you and other members of the family reading; they are more likely to feel inclined to.
- Suggest that you choose a book for each other from the library – just try to select something you think they will really enjoy, and be open minded about their choice for you!
- Remember you can move beyond books – magazines, comics, instructions for board games, shopping list in supermarket; even turning on the subtitles on your TV!
- Create a 'bingo card' or 'passport' for your child to 'collect' stamps or stickers for reading different types of books.

***Above all, enjoy reading!***



*Supporting Parents: Striving for Excellence*



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### ***What should I do, when listening to my child read?***

#### Hearing your child read aloud and talking about reading

- Try to be genuinely interested in their reading – enquire about it, ask questions, make suggestions!
- Encourage and model appropriate expression and intonation.
- Point out and discuss reasons for different punctuation e.g. ‘pause at the comma’ or ‘change your voice when asking a question.’
- Read sections of the book together **or** take turns reading from the book.
- Discuss new vocabulary e.g. ‘why might the author have chosen to use that word?’
- Chat about the effectiveness of description in the story e.g.
  - ‘what does that make you feel like?’
  - ‘what do you think might happen next?’
  - ‘what do you think to this book?’
  - ‘what do you like about this book?’
  - ‘would you like to read any more books by this author / on this topic?’
  - ‘is it like any other books you’ve read?’
  - ‘would you recommend this book and why?’
  - ‘did they come across any words they don’t know the meaning of?’

### ***How do I communicate with school?***

#### Writing in my child’s record book-try commenting on:

- General enthusiasm / enjoyment – ‘James is thoroughly enjoying this book – well done James!’
- Expression / intonation – ‘Super reading Sarah; you really tried hard to make your voice higher at the end of a question!’ ‘Excellent voices for each character Owen! You kept me entertained.’
- Strategies used for working out unknown words - ‘Wow Tim, I really like how you read to the end of a sentence to help you to understand a new word.’
- Some indication of discussion / conversation about reading – ‘You impressed me with your ideas about what might happen next, well done!’ **or** ‘Our debate about whether zoos are a good idea or not really made me think! You had some great opinions, well done.’
- Comments can also refer to targets – ‘You read really fluently today Lisa, next time see if you can remember to pause after a full stop.’

For more information on supporting your child at home with reading in Key Stage 2, please visit our school website by [CLICKING HERE](#).