



04/10/2024

EYFS Reading at Home

Your children will begin to bring home reading books from our reading scheme. To begin with, whilst we are learning our initial phonics sounds, these books will be wordless or have very few words but are very important to your child's reading development.

As a school, we have invested £6000 buying new reading books, and we ask you to ensure that the books are well looked after.

Early books allow children to learn how stories work, including the order and direction in which they read, without the pressure of too many words on the page. Children will enjoy talking about the story and discussing what is happening in the pictures. The first step in reading is to use visual prompts to help read the words. The pictures provide lots of opportunities for playing with environmental sounds, an important first step in the teaching of phonics.

Activities and ideas when sharing these books with your child:

- Respond to your child's ideas by repeating them back and introducing new words to increase their vocabulary.
- Look at the front cover and read the title to your child. Ask them what they think the story will be about? Relate the title back to your child i.e. 'The lost gloves' have they ever lost anything? or 'Puddles' what do you do when you see a puddle?
- Allow your child to turn the pages of the book and describe what they see in the pictures. You could take it in turns to tell a page of the story.
- Look at the facial expressions of the characters and make inferences about what they might be thinking or feeling and why.
- Once you have finished sharing the book ask your child to retell the story in their own words.
- Did they enjoy the story? Why?
- Look at letters in words which may be in your child's name.
- Ask your child to point to different things on the page e.g. The angry man / The big tree /

Please can you spend about 10 minutes a night reading. It is important that you spend time little and often sharing stories together to encourage a love of reading. Record any comments in your child's reading record book, every time you read together.

Children's reading books will be changed regularly and should be sent to school every day in their book bag along with their reading diary so that we can hear them read in class. We will issue new books on a Friday, if their previous book has been returned and read at home.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to speak to me at the end of the day.

With best wishes

Mrs Katie Long - EYFS and Phonics Lead