

Top Tips for Reading in Year 5 and 6

Your child is now building on their early reading skills and developing confidence in reading more broadly and fluently. These top tips will help you to keep a good balance between reading for enjoyment across a range of interests and developing the skills to help your child read with even more confidence and efficiency. We expect all children in Year 5 and 6 to read at home for 15 minutes every day. Your child should be recording the following in their Reading Journal: the title of their book, the date, the author and any comments they have about the book. The children are expected to complete higher level tasks in their Reading Journals both at home and at school (they are taught how to do this in Guided Reading sessions). We believe that reading is the gateway to learning and we appreciate your support.

Tip 1: It's still important to listen

Your child may be reading a wider range of reading material from school or home enabling them to develop their own preferences but they will still need guidance from parents, carers and teachers to ensure a healthy balance of fiction and non-fiction as well as making progress in their reading comprehension. It should be a comfortable read – endless struggling is no fun and can put children off! Enjoy talking about it together while your child is reading.

Tip 2: Get your child to perform

When your child reads aloud encourage lots of expression and get them to use different voices for the different characters or to use different volume or pace. Reading to a younger sibling might demand this and is great practice! This will also aid your child's comprehension, awareness of the listener and the ability to appreciate the writer's craft.

Tip 3: Quiet time and independent reading

As well as reading books aloud together, encourage your child to read alone every night. It is also beneficial to read as a family and model enjoyment of books and reading.

Tip 4: Widen your child's reading habits.

We would like you to encourage your child to try new authors, new genres and read a broad selection of reading material (including non-fiction, newspapers, instructions, recipes, comics and magazines etc). This will build on enjoyment and comprehension skills. It will also be promoted in school and your efforts at home would be valued.

There are lots of websites available where you can access e-books. The following website has been recommended by the City of York and is run by the company who publish many of the reading books we use in this school. The website is www.oxfordowl.co.uk. We are registered as a school and the website is free to use.

The KS2 class log in is: **ks2ld** and the password is: **ks2ld**.

You can select books by genre, age and book bands. Remember your child should be able to read the chosen book confidently so don't struggle on with a book your child is finding tricky. They might like to select an easier book to read to a young brother, sister or friend. Try using the audio button to listen to stories too!

Please do let us know if you have any questions and also let us know any comments about how you and your child find using the website.

Mrs Gardonyi and Mr Richards