

Why is reading important?

Leadgate Primary School
Tuesday 4th February 2020



What the curriculum says:

- ▶ It is essential that, by the end of their primary education, **all** pupils are able to read fluently, and with confidence, in any subject in their forthcoming secondary education.

(National Curriculum 2014)

Research says

- ▶ Children who don't enjoy reading at all are ten times more likely to have fallen behind and be reading below the expected level for their age than children who enjoy reading.

So what?

- ▶ Leaving school without this foundational skill has repercussions for the rest of a child's life.
- ▶ **A child who is behind in reading at age 11 is likely to face a difficult time at secondary school and, beyond.**
- ▶ In the world of work: one in four people earning less than £10,000 are not functionally literate, compared with fewer than one in 25 of those earning over £30,000.

So what?

If we want our children to thrive, teaching them to read is not enough, they must learn to enjoy it.

- ▶ Evidence suggests that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.
- ▶ What is reading for pleasure? Anything that is mainly for enjoyment!

DfE-Research Evidence on Reading for Pleasure

Benefits of reading for pleasure:

- There is a growing body of evidence which illustrates the importance of reading for pleasure for both educational purposes as well as personal development (cited in Clark and Rumbold, 2006).
- Evidence suggests that there is a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment (Clark 2011; Clark and Douglas 2011).
- Reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status (OECD, 2002).
- There is a positive link between positive attitudes towards reading and scoring well on reading assessments (Twist et al, 2007).
- Regularly reading stories or novels outside of school is associated with higher scores in reading assessments (PIRLS, 2006; PISA, 2009).
- International evidence supports these findings; US research reports that independent reading is the best predictor of reading achievement (Anderson, Wilson and Fielding, 1988).
- Evidence suggests that reading for pleasure is an activity that has emotional and social consequences (Clark and Rumbold, 2006).
- Other benefits to reading for pleasure include: text comprehension and grammar, positive reading attitudes, pleasure in reading in later life, increased general knowledge (Clark and Rumbold, 2006).

What is Reading?

- ▶ Reading" is the process of looking at written symbols and getting meaning from them.
- ▶ When we read, we use our eyes to receive written symbols and our brain to convert them into words that communicate something to us.
- ▶ Reading is a *receptive* skill - through it we *receive* information.
- ▶ Reading also requires the skill of speaking, so that we can pronounce the words that we read

How we teach early reading

We teach the children to use different strategies:

- Using the picture as a clue
- Looking at the initial sound of words
- Using the context and recognising keywords
- Re-reading from the beginning of a sentence to guess an unknown word
- Blending sounds, e.g. 's...a...t' 'sh...o...p'
- Looking at the first few sounds e.g. 'caterpillar'
- Reading on to the end of a sentence to work out an unknown word
- Recognising and using punctuation properly

How we teach reading

- Check understanding
- Extend vocabulary
- Develop thinking skills
- Comprehension skills develop through pupils' discussion as well as from reading and discussing a range of stories, poems and non-fiction

Reading Vipers-bookmarks

Vocabulary

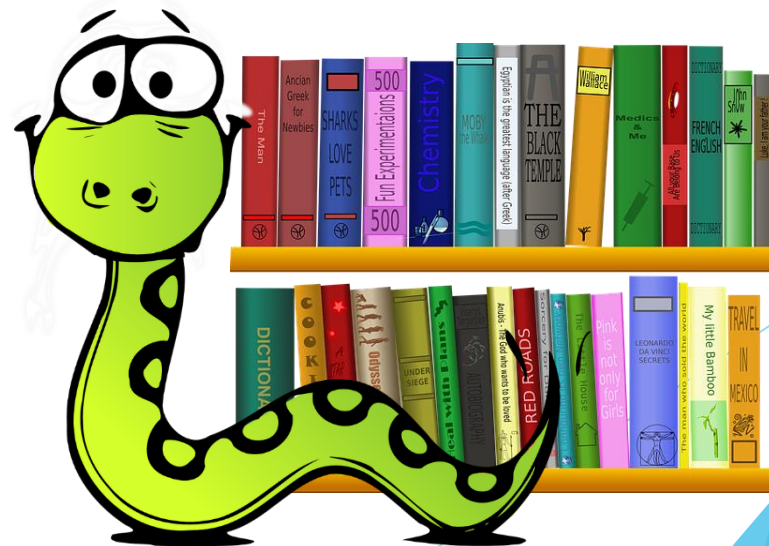
Infer

Predict

Explain

Retrieve

Summarise



Your Support Is Essential!

- ▶ Teaching **reading will only help. ...**
- ▶ Like **ANY** skill it needs to be practised.
- ▶ We don't have enough hours in the day!

How You Can Help!

- ▶ Talk to your children (a lot). ...
- ▶ **Read** to your children. ...
- ▶ Have them tell you a “story.” ...
- ▶ Listen to your child **read**.
- ▶ Let them see you reading!
- ▶ Join the local library
- ▶ Have books available (charity shops/ebay/amazon)
- ▶ Competitions

The more that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The more that you
LEARN, the
more places
you'll **GO**.



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need is a book.

- Dr. Seuss