



Leafield C.E. Primary School

Reading With Your Child (Murphy Class)

Why is reading at home so important?

There are several reasons why encouraging your child to read at home and discussing what they are reading is vital to a child's educational and emotional development. The most obvious reason to read daily with your child is that this should be a special time shared where you talk about the books you both enjoy. In addition, stories can be used to teach children about different emotions and responses to their feelings using the characters and events in stories.

Reading at home

Early reading

- Try to choose a quiet time every night with your child and make yourselves comfortable.
- Let your child hold the book and point to the words as you read them.
- Use the pictures as well; there is often an additional story in them, and children will make up their own stories using them; children's storytelling is very important.
- Allow plenty of time for discussion before you turn over a page. A valuable question is: "What do you think will happen next and why?"
- Let your child read the story to you afterwards, even if this is reciting by heart, or making the story up from the pictures. This is a very important stage.

Developing confidence

- Continue to share reading, still giving your child the opportunity to hear you read to them as well as them reading to you.
- Encourage them to use a range of skills for example decoding unfamiliar words by sounding them out and looking at what word would make sense in the context of the sentence.

Why is a reading record so important?

A child's reading record is a vital document which allows staff and parents to follow, review and plan the reading that a child has done, and his or her next steps. It allows staff to ask a child questions and make suggestions about the books they are reading at home.

Parents can follow the book choices their child makes and share experiences and ideas about the world. As a child becomes a confident reader it becomes even more important that they broaden their reading experiences and begin to think more critically about how a text is written and what we can learn about an author's viewpoint. These skills are essential if children are to become competent

readers and for them to continue to enjoy what they read. This is why we ask older children to answer specific questions in their reading record.

Finally, the reading record is a record that homework has been completed.

What do we write in the reading record?

At the early stage, daily comments from the parent about how the child has been able to decode words or recognise sight vocabulary (words that cannot be sounded out).

Comments linked to the questions asked, are also helpful to show that the child is extending his/her reading through questioning and interaction with an adult.

The reading record can also be used to share a child's likes and dislikes about the books they have chosen.

Reading Skills

In school, we focus on different reading skills:

- Vocabulary and learning new words
- Comprehension and understanding the whole text
- Beyond what the story says (*inference – finding the clues and deduction – solving the clues*)
- Making predictions
- Making connections
- Forming an opinion

Reading questions to support your child's reading development.

Have you seen the 'speed sound of the day' yet?

What does... mean?

Did you see any tricky words on that page? Where?

What extra information did the picture add?

Can you retell the story using the pictures?

If you wrote a different ending, what could it be?

How do you think [character's name] is feeling? Why?

Do the words and pictures tell the same story?

Where is the story set?

What do you think this story will be about? (ask before starting - looking at the cover)

What might happen next? (ask during the story)

Does this story remind you of any others you've heard or read?

What did you enjoy most about that story? Why?

What didn't you like?

Would you read this story again?