

Why Read?

Here are just a few reasons to read:

- * Enjoyment and pleasure
- * To find out more
- * Communication - letters, e-mail, leaflets, posters, text messages
- * To know how to do something - recipes, instructions

All of this will help your child do better with their schoolwork



Who can help?

- Your child's class teacher
- The school Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)
- Your local library
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/libraries
- Virtual School for Looked After Children (for Looked After Children)
www.education.staffordshire.gov.uk/lookedafterchildren



Leaflet compiled by:

Denise Grimshaw - Looked After Children Education Co-ordinator (Virtual School for Looked After Children)

Ann Kelly - Specialist Teacher, Learning Support (SENSS)

If you need a copy of this information in large print, braille, another language, or in audio format, please telephone:

Lichfield and Cannock District Office
(01543 512050)

How to Help with Reading



Useful Tips for
Parents and Carers

Staffordshire Virtual School
for Looked After Children
and



When your child is reading out loud they may get “stuck” with some words

Try these techniques:

1. PAUSE

This gives time for your child to have a go themselves and allows time for self-correction

2. PROMPT

There are a number of ways to do this:

E.g. Ask Questions

- “What would make sense?”
- “Can you see a part of the word you can read?”
- “Is there a clue in the picture?”

Try not to spend too long prompting. You may want to simply say the word, encourage your child to repeat it and move on.

But maintain the flow - better to tell your child the word than insisting on building it up from all the sounds

If your child tries to ‘sound out’ the words encourage letter sounds rather than alphabet names

3. PRAISE

All positive reading behaviours e.g.

- “Brilliant – you really tried to sound out the words”
- “You remembered to read the sentence again”
- “You read the first part of the word”
- “You used the picture to help”

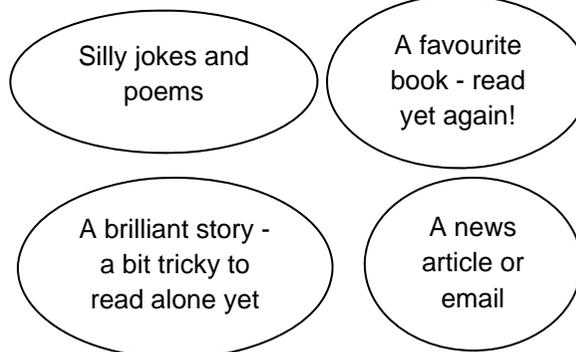
This helps to reinforce all the different ways to work out a new word

Make reading a fun and restful experience, a shared time together. What is the best time for your child and for you? Straight after school? Before unwinding at bedtime?



Children love to be read to, so do continue to read aloud to them. This could be an article from a website, magazine or newspaper, or a great story.

This provides a good reading example **AND** continues to develop your child’s language and vocabulary



Feeling successful or stressed with reading?

If your child appears to be getting stressed try the following:

1. **Take a break!** Continue to read the story out loud yourself with your child following the words. “Can you help me by pointing to the words?”
2. **Take turns** reading alternate sentences
3. **Do something different**, then come back later to read the first part together again

What can I do to help at home with my child’s reading?

‘Nothing succeeds like success’

Until your child has built up his or her confidence, try easier books. Your library will have a wide range of ‘early’ and ‘easy’ readers designed to build confidence.

If your child wants to read a ‘trickier’ book try ‘sharing’ the reading where you read the book together or you miss out occasional words for your child to insert