

Supporting Reading at Home



This booklet has been put together in conjunction with Department of Education guidance

Reading

At Barksbury Federation, we love to read. We want every child to be a confident reader, and want families to feel comfortable reading with their children at home; reading for pleasure can have a positive impact on a child's educational performance.

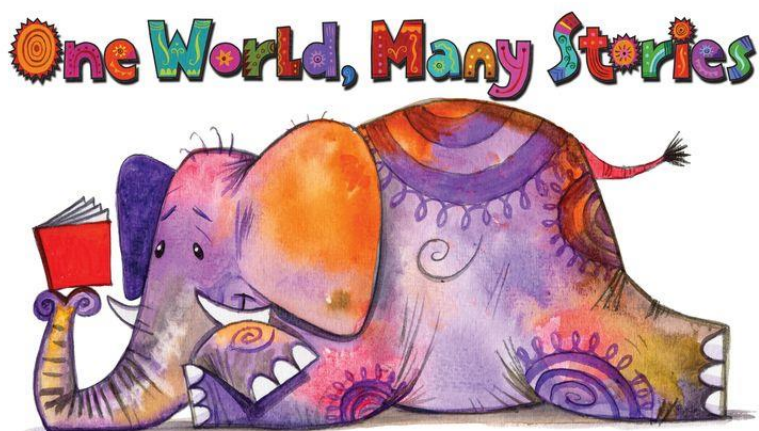
Your child will bring two books home with them. One is for your child to read to you. It has been carefully chosen so that they can work out all the words. The other book has words your child may not be able to read yet. It is for you to read to your child and talk about together.

How to Read a Story to Your Child

If you can find the time beforehand, read aloud the book to yourself first, so you can think about how you are going to read it to your child.

On the first reading:

- Make reading aloud feel like a treat. Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book
- Show curiosity about what you are going to read: *'This book looks interesting. It's about an excited child. I wonder why he/she is excited?'*
- Read through the whole story the first time without stopping too much. Let the story weave its own magic. Read with enjoyment. If you are not enjoying it, your child won't
- If your child brings home a non-fiction book, then you could find some favourite facts



Read favourite stories over and over again

On later readings:

- Let your child pause, think about and comment on the pictures
- If you think your child did not understand something, try to explain: *'Oh! I think what's happening here is that...'*
- Chat about the story and pictures: *'I wonder why she did that?' Oh no, I hope she's going to...'; I wouldn't have done that would you?'*
- Link the stories to your own family experiences: *'This reminds me of when...'*
- Link stories to others that your child knows: *'Do you remember the dragon in...? Do you remember what happened to him?'*
- Encourage your child to join in with the bits they know
- Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers
- Avoid telling children that reading stories is good for them



Top Tips for Supporting Children to Read

Encourage Your Child to Read

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

Read Aloud Regularly

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

Encourage Reading Choice

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

Read Together

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

Create a Comfortable Environment

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

Make Use of Your Local Library

You will be able to explore all sorts of reading ideas in your local library. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow.

Talk About Books

Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

Bring Reading to Life

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

Make Reading Active

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

Engage Your Child in Reading in a Way That Suits Them

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.

Supporting Your Child With Their Reading Book

Each time your child reads at home, please record it in their reading record. It does not always need to be their school reading book

What else can my child read?

Comics, magazines, travel brochures, instructions or recipes, information books, manuals, newspapers, poems, sports reports, shopping lists

Pause, Prompt, Praise

Pause to help them work out new words. ***Prompt*** if your child is stuck by using clues. ***Praise*** them whether they are right or wrong for their effort

Don't forget the federation's Ebooks.

<https://balksburyjun-hantssls.wheelers.co/>

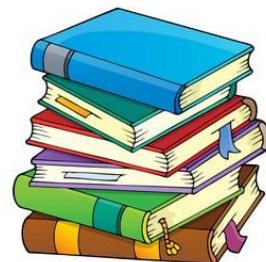
Both schools use the Junior School Library Link

Username: firstname.lastname (e.g. john.smith)

Password: ebooks

My child won't read no matter what I do. How can I help?

Read to your child as much as possible. Don't make an issue out of it. Talk to your child's class teacher. Working together will help



Information About Reading at School

Teaching Reading

In Year 1 through to Year 6, there is a direct focused guided reading teaching time. Year R starts these more formal sessions in the summer term before they move into Year 1. However, Year R carry out other activities whole class such as sharing a book. During guided reading, teachers will establish a rich environment which includes: shared reading, reading aloud to children and time for children to read independently.

Reading Books

When children choose a reading book in school, an adult will always be on hand to support and guide them using a **three pronged approach**:

1. First time the reading book is used there will be pre-teaching the sounds within the reading book – ensuring that the book is well matched to the child's reading stage. Adults will ensure that each book contains sounds that the child has been taught – our book bands are sorted into phased coloured book bands.
2. The second time a child reads their book, an adult will work on comprehension. It is here that adults will:
 - (i) Make connections so that the child can make sense of what they are reading
 - (ii) Have open discussions about the book
 - (iii) Develop confidence in picture cues
 - (iv) Use a range of open ended questions
 - (v) Model their own thinking
3. An adult will then use read aloud. This will ensure that children hear intonation of the voice when text is being read, the timing the reader gives to a sentence, the stress placed on different words and syllables within words and the focus with which the reader reads so the child can hear what it sounds like.

Free Reading Friday

Inspiring children and encouraging curiosity by sharing our own love of books and reading is forefront in Free Reading Friday. Children may share books, have books read to them inside and outside by peers and adults; have books read to them by visitors; have books read in another language. The possibilities are endless but the most important thing is that children grow a love for reading and become excited by opening a book. During this session, the federation will promote reading of fiction, and non-fiction books including Ebooks and audio books.

