

Supporting your child's reading in Year 1

Learning to read is a significant milestone in any child's life, and one that will bring many benefits over an entire lifetime. You play an important role in modelling reading behaviours and supporting your child's reading efforts. You make a difference to how your child will discover the world of literacy and how they view themselves as a reader.

What can you do to help your child become a reader?

What can you do to help support your child's reading skills?



In Year 1 your child will:

Vocabulary knowledge

- ✓ increase their range of vocabulary
- ✓ explore a wide variety of listening, speaking and writing opportunities

Comprehension

- ✓ interpret and understand a range of reading material
- ✓ make connections and predictions when reading and listening
- ✓ create mental visualisations of the content in reading material

Phonics

- ✓ use knowledge of letter and sound relationships

Concepts about print

- ✓ use print, symbols and punctuation

Phonemic awareness

- ✓ hear and alter sounds
- ✓ make links between spoken words and written words

Reading texts

- ✓ use word recognition strategies
- ✓ use decoding strategies

Ways you can help your child's reading in Year 1

Model reading Let your child see you reading, read to yourself and read to your child – often.

Join your local library Find out where it is and what programs and activities they offer, and of course borrow books regularly! Librarians are full of ideas about which books your child might enjoy reading.

Make time for reading Make regular time for reading, even if it is only ten minutes a day!

Break it up Encourage your child to clap or tap out unfamiliar words, found in stories and books, into syllables, for example, ty / ran / no / sau / rus.

What happened next? Encourage your child to retell experiences and events in sequence. You can prompt them by asking, 'What happened next?' Do this after reading stories with them, allow them time to retell what happened and ask questions about the characters or the plot or the setting.

Letter search Allow your child to find letters on newspapers, junk mail, brochures to find letters, for example, circle all the 'e's on a page.

Encourage and praise Reading should be enjoyable for you and your child. Always encourage their attempts and praise their efforts.

Talk to your child's teacher about how you can support your child's reading.

