

How to read at home



- Keep reading time relaxed, comfortable and pleasurable
- Find a quiet place, with the television turned off.
- Make it a special time together.
- Establish a routine in the day and read for 5-10 minutes.
- Ask questions like the ones below

Style	What type of book is this? Have we read a book like this before? What other story is it like? What do you think it will be about? What is the title? Are there pictures? What can you see on the cover?
Setting Where? When?	Where is this story set? When does the story take place? / What time is the story set in? Can you describe the setting of the story?
Character Who?	Who is the most important character in the story? Who is telling the story? Were there any characters that you didn't like? Why? Why does that character behave in that way?
Plot What?	What do you think might happen next? What are the main events in the story? What is the problem in the story and how is it resolved? What was your favourite / most exiting part of the story?
Theme	What is the main idea / theme/moral of the story?

Leavening Primary School



Helping your child to read

How children learn to read

The skill of reading is special - and often difficult to acquire. The fact that anyone learns how to read is something of a miracle. Learning to read is very different from learning to speak; in the development of human history, speaking precedes reading by thousands of years.



Reading is a difficult, multi-step task that must be actively taught and learned. Beginning readers use one section of the brain to link the phonetic sounds to the appropriate letter, and a second section to turn them into words. It's a process that takes some time, which is why children learning to read often read very slowly. But then something interesting starts to happen: a third section of the brain begins to take over. This section helps the child build a permanent registry of familiar words that can be recognised on sight. This enables them to read by seeing the whole word instead of stopping to sound it out every time they see it. Reading eventually becomes effortless.



How we teach children to read in school

As soon as your child begins Nursery, the teaching process of reading begins. We begin to teach them the sounds that will enable them to build the skills to read. Teachers also read and expose them to stories that build up their vocabulary.

PHONICS

Throughout primary school your child will be taught phonic skills that will enable them to read, write and spell. This is taught daily across the school and progression from Phase 1 to phase 6 is taught (nb: all fluent readers remain in Phase 6 into adult hood!) Phase 6 focuses on reading and spelling strategies for unfamiliar words, that we all come across day to day.

SHARED READING

Within literacy sessions your child will read a shared text. Shared reading involves a teacher and a large group of children sitting closely together to read and reread carefully selected enlarged texts. Teachers will model how to tackle unknown words and other reading strategies/skills. This type of reading occurs daily.

GUIDED READING

Guided reading is a strategy that helps students become good readers. The teacher provides support for small groups of readers as they learn to use various reading strategies (context clues, letter and sound relationships, word structure, and so forth). Your child will read in a guided session 3 times a week.

RECIPROCAL READING

This is a strategy which supports children's comprehension of reading. It supports decoding, but focuses on the understanding of text and develops children's ability to infer and deduce from the texts they read. This guided session is taught weekly to all children.

How can I help my child at home?



In school we **teach** your child the skills they require to read. At home you can help them **practise**.

We follow a structured home reading scheme, which your child will begin as soon as we feel they are ready. They will change their books on a **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday**. Children gain confidence from PRAISE and the enjoyment of reading. Reading should not be a chore! Reading the same book for two or more nights allows your child to read it with more confidence allowing them to explore the text and understand the storyline.