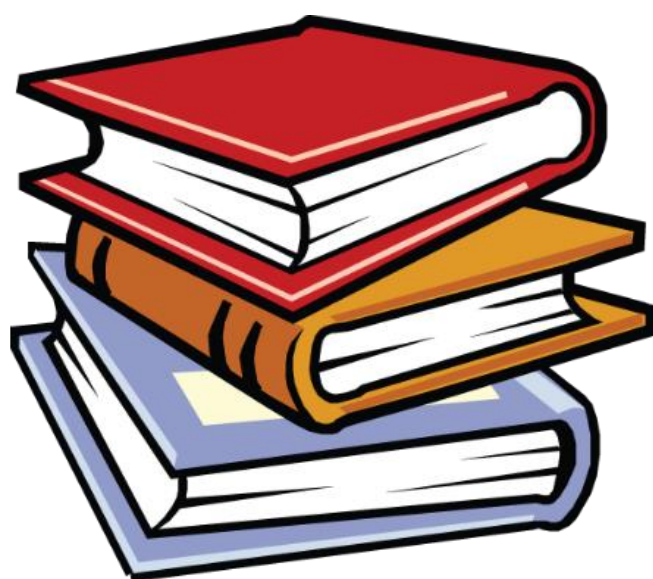




# Workshop and information for Parents/Carers about Reading



## Reading workshop

- What works well?
- Even better if?

### Aims of the workshop

- To inform parents how reading is taught at Plaistow and Kirdford School
- To explain how we apply phonics when reading
- To provide a range of strategies to support reading
- To give parents tips on how to help their child at home

### Reading = de-coding + comprehension

- Phonics is the first choice strategy when teaching children to read. This may need to be combined with other strategies.
- As we explained in our phonics workshop, some words are easy to decode (green words) whereas 'tricky' words (red words) need to be learnt by sight; some will remain tricky and others will be decodable once alternative sounds are learnt.
- Learning to read enables reading to learn - 10% reading is about decoding, 90% is about comprehension. The ultimate aim of reading is comprehension!
- Comprehension is all about understanding what a text means rather than just reading words.
- In early years, children will respond verbally to questions that are linked to what they have read. As they progress further up the school, more formal written comprehension takes place.

### Top tips for comprehension

- Reading the lines (using phonics to read words)
- Reading between the lines (understanding the author's intentions and meanings)
- Reading beyond the lines (reacting to the text, appreciating and valuing the author's meanings , understanding and evaluating the author's work

### **Supporting your child in school**

- We will support your child to change their own reading books once they are ready
- We will encourage them to read the majority of books within each band before they move on
- There is a wide breadth of reading material within each band
- Children will be listened to individually and as part of phonics and guided reading sessions
- Children have constant access to books in their classrooms and soon in the new library
- We promote a love of reading!

### **A step by step guide of how to read with your child at home**

- Talk about the front cover - can they read the title? Talk about the pictures, too.
- Read the blurb on the back - does it make you want to read the book?
- For school reading books, check in the front or back to see if there are any key words or questions which will set the scene and will make reading the book easier.
- When reading the book, refer to questions/ ask questions to encourage comprehension.
- If your child is stuck on a word and is unable to decode it, encourage them to use other strategies. For example, Can they use the rest of the sentence to work out the word (contextual) or does the picture aid them (pictorial)? Once a child has identified the tricky word, please go back and re-read the sentence to increase fluency/check understanding
- At the end of the book, ask them to summarise the text to check their understanding and get their opinion on what they have read.
- Most importantly enjoy the book together!
- Once you have read the book with your child, don't forget to fill in their reading record - highlighting areas of development and recording achievements.

### **A skilled reader**

- Has good phonic knowledge
- Can recognise high frequency and tricky words
- Is able to make sense of what they read
- Understands how text works
- Is exposed to a rich variety of texts e.g fiction and non fiction

**Reading comprehension is reinforced through:**

- Speaking and listening
- Acquiring language
- Understanding how language works