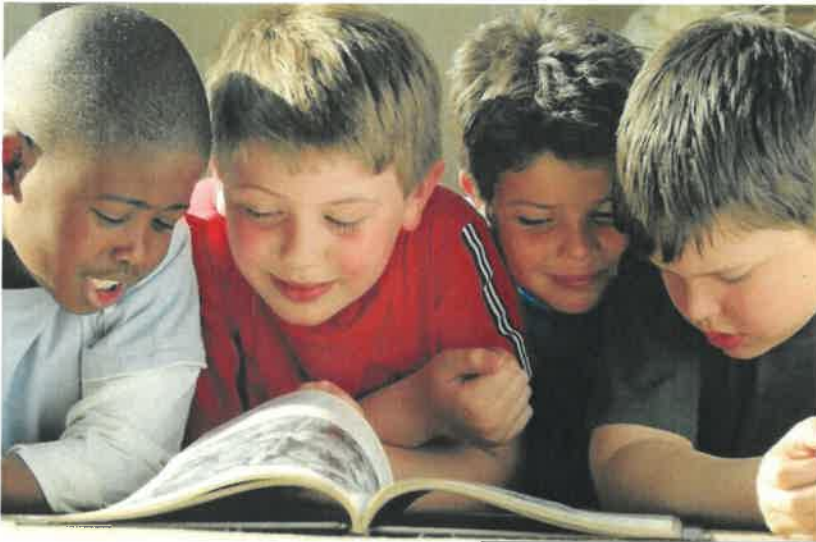


KS 2

Enjoying Reading



A Guide for Parents

Developing enthusiasm for reading

How?

Why?



Where?

When?

What?

What?

Anything and everything!

- Variety of books / texts
- Picture books
- Stories
- Poems
- Non-fiction texts
- Comics
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Internet



Allow your child to choose the reading material

Remember reading is all around us



Where?

Anywhere!

- In the home
- In the bedroom
- In the garden
- At the park
- Book shop
- Library
- Waiting rooms at the doctors, dentist, shops
- On public / private transport



Why?

Because:

- Children enjoy stories
- Children enjoy finding out new information
- Reading helps to develop language and thinking skills
- Reading helps a child to develop emotionally



Make sure the atmosphere is relaxed and happy

When?

Any time!

- Make time to read with your child every day
- 10 minutes a day is ideal
- Don't forget to read to your child, purely for pleasure



NOT

- Only at bedtime
- When your child is busy playing
- When watching his / her favourite TV programme
- When he / she is tired



Books should be as important to your child as his / her toys

If your child enjoys stories he / she will want to read them for himself / herself.

How?

Look, discuss and enjoy books together

- Read aloud with expression
- Chat about the book
- Sometimes act out the story
- Ask each other questions about the book
- Give your child some time to think (about 5 seconds) before helping with the beginning sounds of words

What is your opinion of the book?

What do you think is going to happen next?

Who is this?

Which is your favourite part of the story? Why?







Why is he sad / happy?

Who is your favourite character. Why?



- Follow the text with your finger
- Read together
- It is important to praise your child continuously (for ideas see the Praise Dictionary at the back of this booklet)
- Keep the sessions short and enjoyable
- Let your child sit close to you



-  **make reading an unpleasant task**
-  **have the television on**
-  **threaten to put your child to bed early or tell the teacher if s/he doesn't do well**
-  **make your child feel s/he is in competition with anyone else**
-  **worry about lack of progress**
-  **be afraid to ask for help or advice, however small the reason might be**

Some questions answered

How can I find the right book?

Listen to your child and find out what sort of book he or she enjoys

Ask other parents and your child's teacher for tips on what to read

Find out about recommended books at libraries, bookshops and on book websites

What do I do if my child picks a book that is too hard?

You could read part of it and talk about the ideas and pictures. Children can enjoy more difficult books than they can read on their own.

Is it all right to read to my child in my first language?

It's great for children to hear stories and rhymes in the language that is spoken at home. Children are much better than adults at dealing with two languages.

Why is my child taking longer than others to read?

Most children learn to read between the ages of four and seven, but children really do learn at different rates. What matters is that they know books are fun.

Home and School links

- Continue to read a variety of materials to your child.
- Work with the teacher / school. Your support is important.

- Don't forget the favourites. Re-reading books gives your child confidence, greater fluency, expression and understanding.



- Don't push your child. He / she will come in his / her own time if it's *enjoyable*.
- Keep reading to your child even after he or she has learned to read independently.
- It's good if your child sees you reading – anything from books, letters and e-mails to recipes, newspapers and magazines.



Bilingualism

How can you support your child with reading?

- Look at pictures in a Welsh story book and talk about them in English.
- Read stories in English to your child. Ask your child to give the Welsh word for certain terms.



- Invite your child to tell you in English about a story he / she has read in Welsh.



- What is the story about?
- Describe the characters.
- Ask your child to give his / her opinion about certain aspects.
- Perhaps you could read the same story in Welsh and English.

I'm unable to speak Welsh, but I would like to help my child

What should I do?

- Be supportive.
- Talk about the pictures.
- Use story CD's and books.
- Celebrate your child's success.
- Ask the teacher if you have any concerns.



Praise Dictionary

Absorbed
Accurate
Accomplished
Achieved a lot
Advancing
Alert
Animated
Asking more about meaning
Assured
Attention to punctuation
Beginning to criticise books
Beginning to correct self
Better
Careful
Cheerful
Clearer
Competent
Concentrating
Confident
Conversation good
Coped well
Developing
Determined
Diction better
Diligent
Discussion good
Doing well
Eager
Efficient
Enjoyed book in spite of difficulty
Enthusiastic
Faultless
Few errors
Finding book quite easy
Fluent
Getting better bit by bit
Good comprehension
Good effort
Good improvement
Great improvement in pronunciation
Hardly any mistakes
Hesitates less
Improving daily
Improving slowly
Inspects words carefully
Interested
Keen
Keeps a steady pace
Keeps trying, less apprehensive
Likes book
Little difficulty
Lively reading
Making an effort
Managing tricky words
Memory for words better
More accurate
More expressive
Motivation better
Needs no nagging
No mistakes
No problems
Notices punctuation
Observant
Only a few errors
Perfect
Persevering
Persistent
Phrasing better
Positive
Precise
Progressing
Putting in a lot of effort
Reading big words
Reading harder word on own
Reading more slowly and better
Reading much more
Recall improved
Remembers story better
Rhythmic
Self-reliant
Showing promise
Showing results
Signalling well
Spontaneously asked to read
Successful
Sustaining interest
Tackling harder words
Taking more care
Taking notice
Thorough
Skilful
Smooth
Tries hard to understand
Trying hard
Understanding more
Undistracted
Very competent
Willing