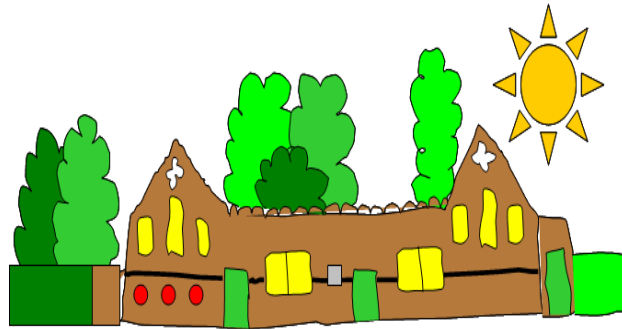


Hackleton CEVA Primary School



Reading at Home

Information for parents and carers



Reading has been a success at Hackleton Primary School for many years. Much of this success can be attributed to the support and encouragement that children receive with reading at home. Research shows that reading is the single most important thing you can do to support your child's education. From a very early age children can be encouraged to enjoy books by sharing them with adults. This booklet provides information and suggestions to help you and your child gain the most from your reading experiences.

Reading Books

Your child will bring home two reading books at a time. One of these will be purely decodable and the other is to be shared at home.

The decodable book will be matched to your child's phonic ability and you should encourage them to apply their phonic knowledge independently when reading this book. A helpful phrase that the children will have heard in school is "Say the sounds and read the word". If aiding your child with the segmenting and blending of words within these books, please try to use the pure sounds (a link to these can be found on Teams). The purpose of these books is to build your child's fluency in reading. These books will be labelled with units- this is a guide for teaching staff.

The 'share at home' book is one to be shared with an adult as they will include some tricky vocabulary alongside decodable words. The purpose of these books is to encourage your child's enjoyment of reading while exposing them to a variety of vocabulary, new characters and a wider range of story features. These books will be labelled with coloured stickers, as listed below.



Supporting your child at home

Children should read each book with you three times in a week, for at least 10 minutes each time. Each read should be signed with a comment.

The 1st read should be focused on initial decoding.

The 2nd read should be focused on increased fluency.

The 3rd read should be focused on comprehension.

- Try to read with your child EVERY day. Little and often is far more beneficial than a long session once a week.
- If your child is very tired, take the opportunity for you to read to them.
- Every child is an individual. Try not to compare their progress with that of other children.

Strategies to help with reading

Phonics are one part of learning to read but it is important to remember that the majority of words in the English language cannot be sounded out and so children need to use a variety of other skills to help them decode words. This is particularly useful to remember when reading the 'share at home' book.

- Do they recognise any letter patterns? Can they blend them together?
- Can the word be broken down into shorter words? E.g. ladybird
- Is it a word they have read on a previous page?
- Does the word make sense? Read the sentence again to check.
- There is nothing wrong with just telling your child a word to keep the flow of the story.
- When they have worked out a word, go back and read the sentence again.

Supporting the more confident reader

As children become more confident readers, it is still extremely important that they read regularly with an adult. Asking questions, sharing a book with them and extending their reading experiences by reading to them are all vital to ensuring they continue to develop their skills. The following are examples of questions to ask.

Before they begin a book...

- What is the title of the book?
- What type of book is it? (Fiction, non-fiction, poetry etc.)
- Who is the author/illustrator?
- Have you read any books by the same author?
- What made you choose this book?
- Can you tell anything about the book before you start reading?

As they continue reading...

- What has happened so far?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Where is the story set? How do you know?
- When is the story set? How do you know?
- Who are the characters in the story? What do you know about them?
- Why do you think the author chose that word?

When they have finished a book...

- Was the ending as you expected?
- Can you think of a different way the story could end?
- What did you like/dislike about the book? Why?
- Would you recommend the book to someone else? Why/why not?



Reading Record Books

Your child's home reading record book helps to show your child's reading patterns and is a useful link between home and school. Please always record the date, book title and page number when your child reads as this helps to identify where more regular practice would be of benefit.

Other comments could include:

- Are they enjoying the book?
- Can they remember the story so far?
- Do they understand what they are reading?
- Are they confident to attempt new words?
- What strategies are they using? E.g. phonics, picture cues, contextual cues.
- Is there a pattern to the mistakes they are making?
- Are they aware of punctuation?
- Are they using expression?



If you read 5 times within a week, and record each read in this book, your child will earn a merit towards their bronze, silver or gold badge. Happy reading!

If reading at home becomes a challenge

It is important that reading is an enjoyable activity.

- Try to avoid confrontation. If your child is very tired, try reading them a story instead.
- Offer alternative reading material e.g. a familiar favourite story, a magazine, instructions for a game...

- Encourage reading at different times of the day and to different people e.g. a grandparent or younger sibling.
- Using story CD's with books can be an excellent way to encourage your child. If they are very familiar with the story you will be amazed at how well they learn to read it.
- Visit the library regularly. Encourage your child to choose books that they want to read.
- Talk about books that you like to read. Children learn by example.
- If your child is regularly reluctant to read, please do speak to their teacher. We are here to help.

