

Introduction

We believe that reading is the key to successful learning in all areas of the curriculum. Our aim is for children to be able to read for information and for pleasure.

How children learn to read

Learning to read is like trying to crack a code. Children should be encouraged to look for different clues to help them understand what they are reading. Learning individual words is important, but they are really aiming to work out the full message.

How can you help?

When you hear your child read encourage them to use the following strategies to work words out:

- Pictures
- Length of words
- Sound words out
- Meaning of text
- Word knowledge

It is important not to confuse your child so concentrate on developing a few skills at a time.

The BRP programme

- Children will be allocated a reading partner who has been trained in the programme.
- They will receive reading support three times per week.
- They will have three books in their bag: a familiar text, a recently introduced text and a new text.
- These books form the basis of the sessions and will be changed three times per week.

How to support BRP at home

The aim is to make reading an enjoyable experience, but consistency is essential if progress is to be made. Try to:

- Practise regularly
- Allocate a specific time for reading
- Look briefly at the familiar text, e.g. discuss story (5 minutes)
- Read a short section from the recently introduced text and discuss (5 minutes)
- Look at the new text, discuss, read together (10 minutes)

Things to do during a reading session

- Talk about books and pictures
- Explain what the book is about
- Ask children to predict what might happen next
- Ask children to talk about what has just happened
- Encourage children to use expression in their voice
- Help children with difficult words by making a game out of them

Phrases to use

- "Well done, you had a go."
- "Well done, you used expression."
- "Good, you corrected yourself."
- "Good try, but did it make sense?"
- "Good try, but did that sound right?"
- "I like the way you read that."
- "Listen and I will demonstrate this sentence."
- "Don't forget to follow the punctuation."

If you need any further information about the programme don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the member of staff who is your child's reading partner.



Hillside Primary School

Better reading Partnership

How to help your child
become a better reader.