



Why Read?

We want your child to read and write really well so that they are confident when they see pages of writing that they haven't seen before and so that they are confident when we ask them to write things.

But if you help us, your child will do really well.

If you have young children, please make sure that you read to them. Try to do this once a day. We can give you books to read to your children but you can get some books from the local library, some local shops, from catalogues and from online shopping.

The most important thing you should do is make sure that your children see plenty of books or magazines or comics - or all three.

Why is this all so important?

1. In school, we ask children to read things and find out what's important - 'browsing'. It is very hard to teach browsing. The best way to learn browsing is going to a bookshop, going to a library or sitting with a pile of books or magazines and choosing what you want to read, or just sorting your books and magazines in ways that you like.

2. In school, we ask children to think about difficult ideas. This might be about, say, why or how things happened in history. It might be when we ask children to think about 'if' and 'why'. If children read lots of different kinds of books, they will start to think about such things as part of their reading.

3. In school, we ask children to think beyond themselves, to think about why or how other people think and behave. If children read lots of different kinds of books, they will start to think about such things as part of their reading.

4. In school, we want children to ask questions, wonder about things, be curious and interested. Again, if children read lots of different kinds of books, they will be children who do just that: ask questions, wonder, be curious and interested.

5. Like adults, children are full of feelings and thoughts. Like adults, these sometimes boil over and the children don't always know what to do with them. Reading books often show us people facing up to problems and finding ways to deal with them. This means that reading books helps children find ways of dealing with their feelings and thoughts.

We know from research all over the world that children who read widely and often and who have plenty of books or magazines to read do better at school than children who don't have books and magazines.

So please...

Get hold of books for your children.

Read books with your children.

Enjoy books with your children.