

Hearing your child read



Listening to your child read regularly at home has a huge impact on their academic achievement. A study by the National Literacy Trust entitled 'Children and Young People's Reading Today' has called for families to take 10 minutes per day to read with their children.

At Burlington Junior School, we aim for all children to have a love for reading and therefore read for enjoyment as they progress through school. This begins with being able to read the words on the page (decode), followed by understanding what they are reading (comprehension).



Helpful hints

- Although it can be difficult, try to find a time when neither you nor your child is in a rush.
- Try to find a quiet place without any distractions.
- Make a reading time of at least 10 minutes, which needs to include a discussion about what you and your child have read.
- Try to make the reading session fun!

Strategies for word reading (decoding)

If your child cannot read the words confidently:

- Talk about the pictures together.
- Try reading the text with them slowly.
- Read the sentence from the start.
- Encourage them to blend sounds together (if possible).
- Wait for about 5 seconds for your child to self-correct.
- If they are stuck, point to the word they are stuck on and pronounce it, then get your child to repeat it correctly.
- If they are making more than 5 mistakes on a page, the text may be too hard for them.

If your child reads an incorrect word, some of these strategies can help:

- Does that make sense? Does it sound right to you?
- You said "went". Would that word fit here?
- Repeat the sentence to your child. Ask: "What was wrong?"
- Tell them what the word says and ask your child to repeat it.



Questions to discuss

Can the child find information which is stated in the text?

- Where did the story take place?
- When did the story take place?
- What did he/she look like?
- Who are the key characters in the story?
- What happened first/next/at the end of the story?



Can the child infer meaning from the text?

- How do you feel about ...?
- What sort of person do you think ... is? Which words tell you that?
- What does this tell you about how ... is feeling? If this was you, what would you be thinking?
- Predict what you think is going to happen? Why do you think that?

Can the child comment on the author's use of language?

- I wonder why the author has used those words to describe the *sea*. What do you think?
- What do these words mean? Why did the author choose to use them?
- What does this description of the character tell you about how they are feeling?



Further information

Oxford Owl

This website offers a wealth of further useful information and also includes some eBooks that children can read online using either a computer or tablet.



<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/reading>

New Malden Library

New Malden Library is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and has a great selection of children's books to borrow. For more information have a look at their website.

http://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200208/libraries/299/branch_new_malden_library