

Summer Reading Newsletter



Just keep reading!

Why is reading for pleasure important?

- Currently, 1 in 5 children in England cannot read well by the age of 11. We know that reading for fun improves literacy.
- Reading for pleasure is more important to children's academic success than their parents' level of education or socio-economic status.
- Embedding a love of reading in children can help their wellbeing later in life. 19% of adult readers say that reading stops them feeling lonely.
- Studies have found that those who read for pleasure have higher levels of empathy, greater self-esteem and are better able to cope with difficult situations.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2020

HOME FIND A READ BOOK SORTER READING CLUB CHAT ACTIVITIES NEWS GAMES ABOUT



Wiltshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

With the disruption caused by Covid-19 and the impact of social distancing on schools and public libraries, the 2020 Challenge has launched in a new digital format designed to keep children engaged and interested in reading. It supports parents and carers with children already at home, and will run from 5 June to mid-September.

The Summer Reading Challenge website is free to access and features games, quizzes and downloadable activities that incentivise and encourage children to take part in reading related activities.

Although public library buildings are closed, libraries will continue to deliver the Challenge through virtual services and e-lending platforms.

Visit your [local library website](#) to find out how you can access eBooks, audiobooks, comics and magazines for free that you can use to complete the Challenge at home.

Other useful story resources

- A range of authors read on this [YouTube playlist](#)
- [Cressida Cowell reading How to Train your Dragon](#) - a chapter a day! The early chapters are on Youtube.
- Online resource with books being read by celebrities; <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
- Michael Rosen's YouTube channel - stories and poems for children - old favourites <https://m.youtube.com/user/artificedesign>

Supporting You to Help Your Child Read:

Organisations, Charities and Literacy Websites

[The Literacy Trust Family Zone](#) - a brilliant place to start, this is a comprehensive web portal for parents created by The Literacy Trust. Split up by age group, you will find ideas and guidance for simple activities that will engage children at home, while also benefiting their reading, writing and language development. You'll be able to access free reading and writing resources, audiobooks, videos, competitions and reading challenges.

[Love My Books](#) - another free website providing resources, activity ideas and book suggestions for children aged 0-9. Pages of great ideas for parents and children sharing books together.

[World Book Day](#) - Browse their booklists for children and young people at all ages and stages – for ideas and inspiration. There are stacks of links to book related resources and videos too.

[Authorfy](#) - this is a great website. Full of free resources, activity packs, writing prompts, author videos and brilliant book recommendations this is a good way to entertain and educate children as it is so engaging.

[The British Library Discovering Children's Books](#) - this new website has a wide range of information and resources available from how to draw a Gruffalo to how to make a mini book.

[The Reading Realm](#) - there are now some free learning packs available on this website based on animals and nature, fairy tales and creative writing prompts.

www.toppsta.com - a website full of book recommendations, including videos and activity packs. There are over 55,000 books reviews - all by children! It also has daily collations of various events happening on line: <https://toppsta.com/blog/view/bookish-ideas-if-you're-self-isolating-with-the-kids>

How Can I Help Support My Child Reading?

- Always take a positive approach to reading - talk about books, visit the library and ensure adults are seen reading too. Talk about books you enjoy or liked at their age.
- Separate *learning* to read from *loving* to read. Don't let homework be their only experience of reading.
- Let your child choose what they want to read. Reading is reading whatever the format.
- If they try a book and don't like it, don't insist they finish it.
- Keep a reading routine in place where you listen to your child read, or [read to them](#).
- Encourage children to switch off devices half an hour before they go to bed, and read instead. It's a habit, and they only need 20-30 minutes a night regularly. Start with shorter times if needed. Taking away the blue light will also ensure that your child gets better quality sleep.
- Use rewards to help motivate your child to read if they are reluctant, and praise and encourage them as they read.
- Let them listen [to audio books](#) as an alternative.
- Let them [reread old favourites as well as age-appropriate reads](#).—there's comfort in familiarity
- [Ask them about their reading](#)—especially if they are reading independently now. Get them to read their favourite bit to you. Ask them questions about what they think will happen next. Borrow their books and read them and then discuss them.
- Get them to make a reading den—somewhere cosy and small where they can enjoy reading. Lots of ideas [here](#).

More Tips to Support KS2 Children Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures—these tips are aimed at supporting children in Key Stage 2.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)**


Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Why not set your child a reading challenge: How many different things can you read in a day?
- 2 Ask your child lots of questions**


All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to'. Why not take turns to read a page each of a longer novel? So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'
- 3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read**


If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the fox on the front cover? Why do you think he's so sad?'
- 4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read**


When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Think about how the characters behaved and interesting things that happened in the plot. You could encourage your child to keep a reading diary, describing the big idea of each chapter.
- 5 Ask your child to write about what they have read**


Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper (or chalk on a path) and draw around your child. Ask them to fill the outline with lots of information about the main character.
- 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family**


Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'you could use your slimepower to help me cook tea tonight.'
- 7 Maintain the motivation to read**


Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Give your child choices about what they read, being in control is great motivation! Encourage them to recommend books to family and friends. For example, 'you should read this book, Grandad, because you love funny stories.'

Sharing the Love of Reading- why not try some of these reading activities?

Sharing the Love of Reading: 3-5-year olds



Do share with your teacher or on bit.ly/OURfP-Padlet
#OURfP

Lots of lovely ideas to get children reading:

[For 3-5 year olds](#)

[For 5-7 year olds](#)

[For 7-9 year olds](#)

[For 9-11 year olds](#)

[For 11-16 year olds](#)

I ♥
READING



Reading With Trust

Enjoy reading with **TRUST**

T Take turns to make predictions



R Recap to check ideas & understanding

U Use encouragement and praise

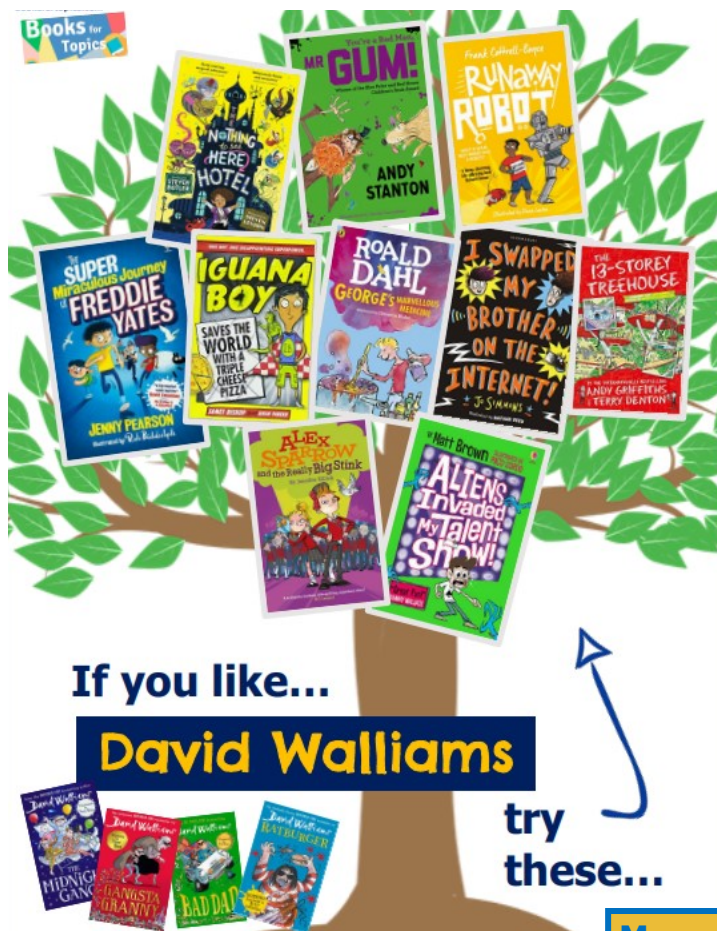


S Share prior knowledge & past experiences

T Tune-in and listen. Be curious with your child



Branching Out—What to Read If You Like....



More suggestions and booklists can be found here!
<https://www.booksfortopics.com/branching-out>

