

Ten Top Tips

1. Encourage your child to read
2. Read aloud regularly
3. Encourage reading choice
4. Read together
5. Create a comfortable environment
6. Make use of your local library
7. Talk about books
8. Bring reading to life



You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

9. Make reading active

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English.



High Down

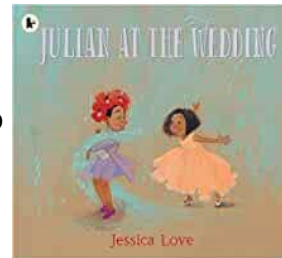
Infant School

Encouraging the Love of Reading

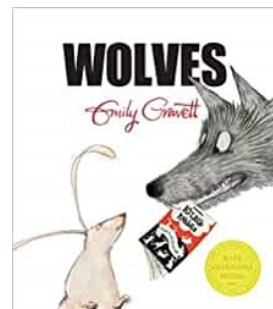
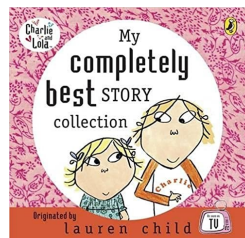
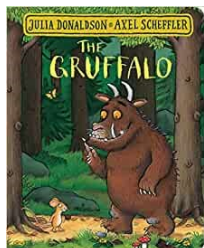


Why is Reading for Pleasure important?

There is lots of evidence that children who read and are read to (even after they *can* read for themselves) benefit in a whole range of ways. These include:



- Supporting the child's motivation to become a fluent and confident reader themselves.
- Promoting empathy—you meet characters in books with very different backgrounds and motivation from your own.
- Encouraging the understanding and use of a rich and varied vocabulary.
- Accessing written information — books, websites and all kinds of digital media.
- Promoting imagination—books can take you travelling in time, around the world and out of this world — and still be home in time for tea!
- Providing access to a shared culture—imagine a childhood without The Gruffalo, Charlie and Lola or Big Bad Wolves of all descriptions!



The reader teacher Reads, reviews and recommendations of children's books for children, families, teachers and schools.

Little Box of Books Company specialising in books celebrating diversity of all kinds, matched to the appropriate age range.

[Letter Box Library](#) Children's booksellers celebrating equality and diversity

100 Reads We have also compiled our own lists of books to share with children at different ages. These are currently under review, but hopefully remain a good starting point for ideas to read to and with children.

!00 Reads Nursery and Reception

100 Reads Year 1 and Year 2





Websites with ideas for books to read and enjoy with children

[Book Trust](#) is the charity that gifts free books to all children in Nursery and Reception to help families read together. They have compiled lists of books for children of different ages, reflecting children's publishing over the last 100 years.

[Love](#) reading for kids—lists of books for all ages and interests.

[Pie Corbett's Reading Spine](#) Pie Corbett is a highly regarded educationalist with many years' experience. His Reading Spine is a list of books to share with children at different ages of development: 'essential reads' which become a store of classics, creating a **living library** inside a child's mind.

[Book Lists for the Primary Classroom](#) aimed at teachers, but also useful for parents.

[School Reading List](#) Suggested reading books for primary & secondary aged children in the UK.

Impact on future success

Not only does reading have an immediate impact, research shows that **a love of reading is the single most important factor for children's future success, enhancing reading, maths and cognitive skills in later schooling.**

Encouraging the Love of Reading at High Down

In **Reception and Year One** your child will bring home two books. One is for your child to read to you. It has been carefully chosen so that they can work out all the words (decode using their phonic knowledge). The other book has words your child may not be able to read yet. **It is for you to read to your child and talk about together.** Hopefully the ideas in this leaflet will also help when you are reading and enjoying other books together, including in **Year Two** and beyond.



Reading with your child

The first time you read a story:

- Make reading aloud feel like a treat. Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book.
- Show curiosity about what you're going to read: 'This book looks interesting. It's about an angry child. I wonder how angry he gets...'
- Read through the whole story the first time without stopping too much. Let the story weave its own magic.

Read favourite stories over and over again.

These can be your child's choices or yours, but try to maintain your own enjoyment of the experience. Don't beat yourself up if sometimes you just can't cope with Peppa Pig yet again!

On later readings:

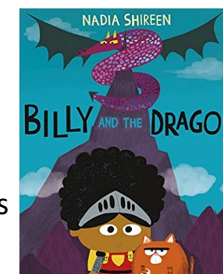
- Let your child pause, think about and comment on the pictures.
- If you think your child did not understand something, try to explain: 'Oh! I think what's happening here is that...' (but don't leap in too quickly, give your child time to think)



- Chat about the story and pictures: 'I wonder why she did that?'; 'Oh no, I hope she's not going to...'; 'I wouldn't have done that, would you?'
- Link the stories to your own family experiences: 'This reminds me of when ...'



- Link stories to others that your child knows: 'Ah! Do you remember the dragon in? Do you remember what happened to him?'
- Encourage your child to join in with the bits they know.
- Avoid telling children that reading stories is good for them (even though it is).



Questions you could ask

- What did you like about the story?
 - What was your favourite bit of the story?
 - Was there anything you didn't like/ anything that puzzled you?
 - Does the story remind you of anything else we've read?
- Give your own answers to the questions if your child doesn't want to answer them – don't turn the experience into an inquisition.

