# Supporting your child to read

We place great priority on the value of reading at Cannon Lane Primary School and are very proud of the passion and attainment our children have for reading.




As a parent, you can play an important role in helping your child learn to read. Research shows that children who are helped at home make better progress in school.
Reading with your child can be fun and very rewarding. It also shows that you value their efforts. If children enjoy reading, it will benefit their whole education. They are also more likely to carry on reading as adults. Reading aloud to children is the best way to get them interested in reading.
Spending time with word games, stories, and books will help your child not only improve with their reading, but also their writing.




Encourage reading for enjoyment by choosing any books that appeal to your child, for example, stories or information books on their hobbies or interests such as football or animals.

Vary your reading together. It doesn't have to be school books. Newspapers, magazines, recipes, games instructions, shopping lists and signs, can be read together and still be part of the process of learning to read with enjoyment.

Children can also borrow books from the school library weekly and from the local library to read together. Your child may keep choosing the same book because it is a favourite. This is all part of learning to read.

Children enjoy being read to even when they are fluent readers and revisiting old favourites develops confidence and an understanding of different genres.

**Reading at Home**

- Find a quiet, relaxing place to read away from distractions such as TV
- Sit comfortably in good light and talk to your child about their book
- Read for about 10 minutes; a regular short time of quality is better than a long session which happens only occasionally
- Talk about the cover and title and what the story might be about
- Ask them to tell you who wrote the book or point to the author
- Look at the pictures and ask them to tell you where the story takes place
- Ask who they can see in the pictures (especially in simple caption books)
- Try to be supportive and positive during the reading time - if you are relaxed, your child will be too
- Encourage your child to point to each word as they read aloud and where possible wait for your child to decode words
- Encourage the use of clues such as the look and sound of the letters, what would make sense and the illustrations
- If they get stuck on a word, you could let them read on so they can work out the word themselves from the context
- When they are confident with sounds, let them sound out unknown words –break longer words down in to syllables
- Encourage expressive reading by drawing attention to punctuation and modelling your voice for different characters
- Help children's understanding by talking about the story or text – the setting, the plot, the characters
- Discuss the kind of people the characters are and the way they behave
- Talk about the kind of story it is (adventure, fantasy, science fiction, myth etc)
- Encourage your child to refer to words and passages in the text to justify opinions
- If your child is finding a book difficult, help out by reading it together
- Praise your child throughout to show that reading is fun

