



How can you help your child?

- Try to listen to your child read regularly.
- 10 minutes a day is much better than longer sessions once a week. It often helps if a regular time is set aside so that it becomes part of a routine. Always sign and date your child's reading record book every time you listen to them.
- Find a quiet place to share books where you can be comfortable.
- Encourage your child to have a go by blending to help read any unfamiliar words.
- Talk about the book. The previous page has a list of suggested questions and ideas to encourage your child to talk about the book.
- Talk about the meanings of words to help to develop your child's understanding and use of language.
- Encourage your child to read a range of text such as newspapers, comics, poetry, non-fiction, etc.
- Share books with your child.
- Play word games. Remember to build up your child's confidence by praising their efforts.



St Peter in Eastgate Infant School



How to help your child with reading





Reading opens the door to learning and to the world. It builds confidence and opens up future learning, underpinning everything we do and being essential to everyday life. In order to survive, we need to be able to read instructions, signs, and safety information as well as reading for pleasure.

At St Peter in Eastgate Infants we use a phonic approach to teach children to decode words. From the first stages of reading they are taught the skills of blending and segmenting and are encouraged to use this as their main approach to reading unfamiliar words. Alongside this, they are taught high frequency words. These are the common words that do not completely follow the phonic rules and patterns that the children learn at the early stages of reading. We call these 'tricky' words. Your children may bring words home to practise. We want your child to develop a love of reading. In order to achieve this, we introduce children to a range of books in order that they might develop a delight in all that books have to offer through a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts.

All children at St Peter in Eastgate are expected to **read daily**. Little and often is best. We ask all our parents/carers to send their child's reading books in to school every day so that we can listen to your child read whenever possible.

Successful readers use many strategies to help them to understand the text.

- Phonic (sounds and spelling)
- Grammatical knowledge
- Knowledge of punctuation
- Word recognition and graphic knowledge
- Knowledge of context
- Knowledge of spoken language



If you have access to the internet your child can additionally enjoy a fun, secure and finely levelled online reading scheme, known as **Bug Club**. Each child is allocated their own books and is given an individual log in, password and school code (recorded on a sticker on their reading record book). There are incentives (earning 'coins') to search the text, use their learned strategies and show understanding through the games and quizzes.



By the time children reach KS2 they use most of these strategies. We aim to build these strategies up and develop higher order reading skills.



Encourage your child to discuss the text with you as they read and once they have finished.

Here are some examples of questions you could ask to extend your child's reading skills.

- ◆ How did... happen?
- ◆ When/where did the story take place?
- ◆ What is the character like?
- ◆ Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- ◆ Explain how the author made this character seem angry/happy/sad/excited.
- ◆ What words give you the impression that...
- ◆ Can you invent a new title?
- ◆ Can you predict the outcome of a chapter/episode?
- ◆ Can you tell me what you think about ...?
- ◆ What evidence can you find to support your opinion?
- ◆ Could the story be improved? How?
- ◆ Would you recommend this story? Who to?
- ◆ What word could you use instead of ...?

