

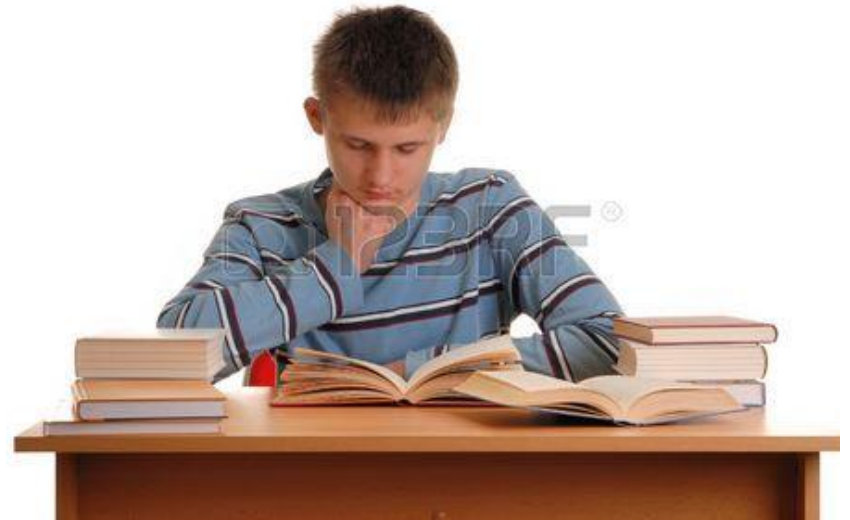
How can I help my child with reading?



Reading is for life – not just for school.



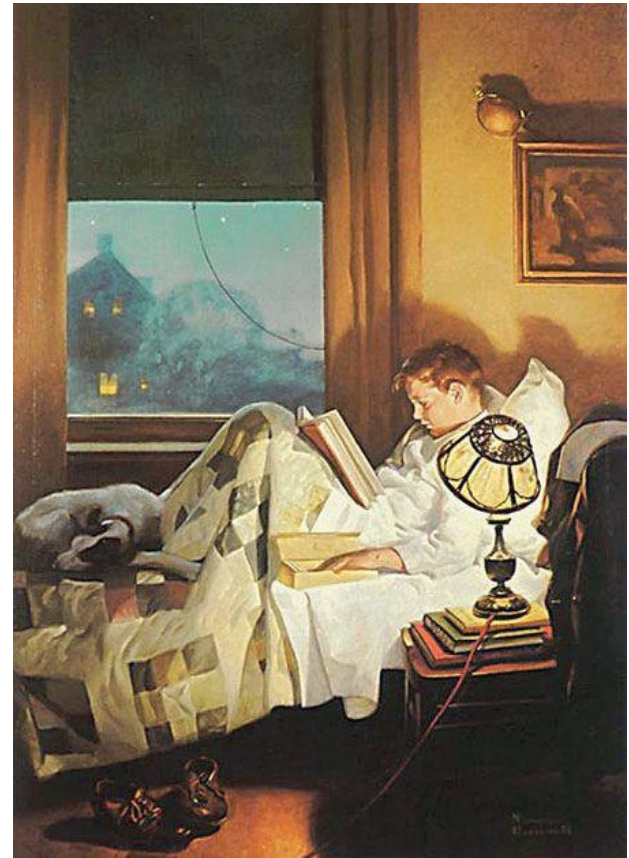
Here are some tips on how to help your child become a confident, effective reader.



Share books and magazines with your child.



Try a book at bedtime.



Set a good example: read yourself!



Go to the library together!

- We're lucky in Erdington: we've got a good public library. It has lots of books, a friendly atmosphere, helpful staff and holiday activities – and it's free!



How we teach reading in school.



Phonics: Letters and Sounds

Children learn to read words and sentences through our phonics programme: Letters and Sounds.

This is particularly important in Reception and Years 1 to 3, when children are learning the basic skills they need to be independent readers.

Reading comprehension

Once a child can decode the words on the page, we need to make sure that he or she understands them. Understanding what is read is important right from the beginning. As children move up through the school, they read more challenging texts.

Reading comprehension

We teach reading comprehension through:

- The key word strategy.
- Book Talk

The key word strategy

The key word strategy helps children to make sense of texts that they read, and enables them to answer assessment questions accurately.

There are 3 parts to the key word strategy.

Children:

- identify a key word in the first sentence of each paragraph;
- identify key words in the question;
- answer the question by finding evidence in the text.

Identify keyword (subheading) in a paragraph.

- 1. Read first sentence only.
- 2. Identify 1 or 2 possible key words.
- 3. Check if key word links to rest of the paragraph.
- 4. Underline key word that links to the rest of the paragraph.

Identify key word in question effectively.

1. Read all of question.
2. Identify question word.
3. Underline specific key words in question to scan text for.

Identify answer effectively.

- 1. Scan subheadings for possible paragraph.
- 2. Look for key words or synonyms in paragraph.
- 3. Read before and after key word.
- 4. Check question word.
- 5. Check number of marks/responses needed.
- 6. Verbalise/think of answer.
- 7. Check answer is correct.
- 8. Record answer.

Try the key word strategy at home.

- Ask your child to explain the key word strategy to you.
- Ask your child questions about a book you're sharing, and see if he or she can find the answer in the text.

Book Talk

In lessons, we encourage children to discuss books and other texts, sharing their own views and listening to the views of others. Children enjoy this, and learn a lot from it.

Talk about books at home.



If you want any information or advice about reading, speak to your child's teacher.

You can also speak to us if you feel that you want to improve your own reading skills,

We're here to help.

Try these websites:

www.letters-and-sounds.com

[www.woodlands-
junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy/](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy/)