

How Can I Engage My Reluctant Reader?

Create a reading routine

- Set aside between 10-30 minutes a day to read with your child.
- Keep reading to and with your child even once they are confident, fluent readers.
- It can be a wonderful way to connect with them by discussing the book together and making predictions about what might happen next.

Read using technology

- Gadgets such as tablets and e-readers can help to capture children's interest in books.
- Technology is changing the way we all learn, and given that most children see using a tablet as a fun activity, it is likely to increase their enjoyment and confidence – and therefore have a positive impact on their reading.

Hook them into a series of books

- Reading the first book of a series with your child will often lead to them independently wanting to read more and learn more about these characters and the plot of these books.

Listen to audiobooks

- Mix up their reading by allowing your child to listen to audiobooks for part of the story.
- It can be really engaging to listen and follow along with a book.
- Long car rides can be a perfect time to listen to an audiobook together!

Read to younger siblings or family members

- This can really empower a reluctant reader and help to build their confidence in their reading capabilities.

Watch the film

- Often as an adult, this can spoil the surprise of a book but for a reluctant reader, it can help to engage a child in the story and make a book more accessible.
- Seeing a book come to life can be really motivating for a child.

Pair reading with other activities

- Ask your child to read the instructions to a new game and teach the family, or read a recipe and cook together... they won't even know they're learning!



Supporting Literacy at Home

“I have challenged myself that I will read thousands of books and I will empower myself with knowledge.”

- Malala Yousafzai

“Reading is a way for me to expand my mind, open my eyes, and fill up my heart.”

- Oprah Winfrey



“If you don't like to read, you haven't found the right book.”

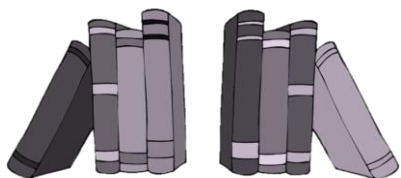
- J.K. Rowling

Why Is Reading So Important?

Whether or not reading is something we enjoy, we cannot deny that the ability to read is a fundamental skill and to be able to read with confidence is very important.

In a world where there are so many other things we could be doing with our time, reading often falls to the bottom of the pile. With a screen to entertain us, why would anyone take the time to pick up a book? Here are just a few of the benefits of reading regularly:

- **Increases vocabulary and helps to improve communication skills**
- **Improves focus and concentration**
- **Develops imagination**
- **Reduces stress**
- **Expands memory**
- **Increases intellect and is proven to lead to academic success!**



Looking for more recommendations or have any questions? Please contact our Reading Leaders:

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Finding the Right Book!

Miss Meredith and Miss Richardson have put together an Autumn Reading List with some recommended reads, but one of the first things to consider when finding an appropriate book is reading ability.

- In order to feel confident enough to pick up a book, especially when they don't enjoy reading, a child must feel as though they are not faced with an impossible task. However, in order to progress with their reading and not feel bored, children need to be sufficiently challenged.
- All students at FBA are tested at the beginning of the academic year in order to identify their current reading age. This will be provided to you with her first report.
- Once you have this information there are a number of helpful websites which can help you to identify an age appropriate book.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/>

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

What Can Parents Do?

Your daughter should be reading at home for 20 minutes everyday. In school she reads for pleasure at the start of her English lessons, as well as twice a week during Tutor Time Reading. She will currently be reading: *Rooftoppers*, *Diver's Daughter* or *After the War*.

- **Be interested and ask her about books daily – plot, characters, themes, predictions.**
- **Be sensitive and ensure your daughter has the chance to discuss delicate themes that may arise.**
- **Be an example and let your daughter see you reading for pleasure on a regular basis at home.**
- **Be a team and read together!**

Support for Struggling Readers

Children struggle with reading for various reasons, however a shared feature of many struggling readers is that they have difficulty in processing sounds in spoken words. Here are some tips that may help you in engaging a struggling reader at home.

- Take turns to read
- Play with sounds
- Read to your child
- Use technology (audiobooks)