

Reading with male role models

Wednesday 19th March

Research

- According to the research, dads who regularly drew, played and read with their three-year-olds helped their children do better at school by age five. Dads being involved at age five also helped improve scores in seven-year-olds' Key Stage Assessments.
- Dads' involvement impacted positively on their children's school achievement regardless of the child's gender, ethnicity, age in the school year and household income, according to the report.

When does a child learn to read?

- Readers from birth
- Children learn quickly that we communicate via spoken language
- Babies are sung to, laughed at, talked to, listened to
- Children understand that print conveys meaning when adults read aloud to them and when they see adults reading.

What makes a skilled and confident reader?

Opportunities to:

- Build **spoken language** by talking and listening
- Learn about **print** and books
- Learn about the sounds in spoken language (this is called **phonological awareness**)
- Learn about the letters of the alphabet and how they come together to form words
- **Listen** to books **read aloud**

Every one of these elements is vital!

Engagement and Enjoyment

- What is a literacy rich environment?
- How many different types of print are on offer at home?

cards **chapter books**
menus **newspapers** **emails**
non-fiction picture books **magazines**
catalogues **recipe books** **letters**
atlases **shopping lists** **programmes**
comics **poetry** **food packets**



“There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island.” – Walt Disney

- 1. Make books a part of family life** – Always have books around at home. That way you and your children are ready to get reading, even if it’s only for ten minutes.
- 2. Read about something they’re interested in** – Help your child find the right book for them. It doesn’t matter if it’s fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
- 3. All reading is good** – Don’t rule out non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines or leaflets. Reading is reading and it’s all worthwhile.
- 4. Get comfortable!** – Snuggle up together somewhere warm and cosy, whether it’s in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa. And make sure your child has somewhere comfy to read on their own too.
- 5. Ask questions** – To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read. Start with ‘Where did we get to last time?’, ‘Can you remember what’s happened so far?’ and ‘What do you think will happen next?’.
- 6. Read whenever you get the chance** – Have a book or magazine with you for any time your child has to wait, like at the doctor’s or the dentist.
- 7. Read favourites again and again** – Encourage your child to re-read the books and poems they love. Re-reading helps to build fluency and confidence.
- 8. Enjoy bedtime stories** – Read with your children at bedtime as often as you can. It’s a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with them.
- 9. Make the most of rhyme and repetition** – Books and poems with rhymes and repeated words or phrases are great for getting your kids to join in and remember the words.

Literacy rich home environment

☐ **Where to find good books?**


- ☐ Bookshops
- ☐ School book fairs
- ☐ Ask for books as gifts
- ☐ Library and library sales
- ☐ Church and table top sales
- ☐ Charity shops
- ☐ Ebooks and audio books

Engaging your child

- ❑ Join the library
- ❑ Build a home library
- ❑ Let your child choose the book
- ❑ Use funny voices!
- ❑ Tap into their interests
- ❑ Take books with you on journeys or shopping trips
- ❑ Use technology to your advantage
- ❑ Get Dads reading!

MyOn and Accelerated Reader

Children should all have access to this at home through devices such as laptops or iPads. It will work on a phone but it is not the same as a large screen. If you do not have a device at home, maybe you should look at the school loan agreement (available from the office). They can then read or listen to books at home in their own time. They can also take a quiz afterwards and this will go towards their word count. MyOn has a range of books for all ages and if you have younger children at home then they can join in as well.



Are you looking to gain some experience with working with children?

Do you want to give back to the local community?


We are looking for adults who are willing to come and listen to children read on a regular basis.

You will need to sign up for 6 week blocks and commit to doing it every week.

Volunteer Readers

Why become a volunteer?

- 1. Personal Fulfillment:**
- 2. Community Engagement:**
- 3. Skill Development:**
- 4. Positive Impact on Children:**
- 5. Social Connection:**



The local library

Weekly homework club for children.

Access to free books 6 days a week.

No fines for books not returned on time for children.

Why the Library Matters:

- **Diverse Book Collection:** Encourage a love for reading with our diverse range of books catering to all age groups and interests.
- **Quiet Study Spaces:** Provide your children with a peaceful environment conducive to learning and concentration.

The Highfields Library is not just a place for books; it's a community hub where your children can expand their minds and foster a lifelong love for learning.


BorrowBox

If you are looking for great audio and online books, beyond MyOn, to use at home, BorrowBox has a free website and app that you can use to download, borrow and share classic, popular and loveable books for Free.

<https://leicestershire.borrowbox.com/>

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All you need is a library login, which you can get for free, by signing up online. When you get your card number and PIN, you can log in to the BorrowBox website. You may need to pre-look for books as you may have to wait for some just like the normal library.



Recording your reading

This record should be completed every day at home by the children. The children have been shown by teachers how to fill the record out properly so all you need to do is check. Of course, parents are more than welcome to record in the book, or ask their child to write what they want, and we encourage that two-way conversation. Staff will check the reading recordings so if you feel the book is too easy or too hard then say. We are also happy for you to just sign to say you have seen them read or read with them. Teachers will also comment on the books so please look out for those messages. When the teachers check the records, which we do weekly, we are looking for 5 recordings of reading at home. This then means the child will receive a star which is added to their star chart. When they have 15 stars they will get a book prize.

Reading with your children

What is the story about?

Who are the main characters?

What is your favorite part of the book so far?

Can you predict what might happen next?

How would you feel if you were the main character?

What is the lesson or moral of the story?

Are there any words or phrases you didn't understand?

If you were the author, how would you end the story differently?

Which character do you relate to the most and why?

What did you learn from this book?

These questions are designed to not only assess comprehension but also to stimulate thoughtful conversations and enhance the overall reading experience for both parent and child.