

Alsager Highfields Foundation Primary School



The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.

Dr. Seuss



**A Parent's Guide to
Stress-Free Reading
With Children**

Introduction

Research shows that parents who hear children read accelerate their children's interest and progress in reading. Whether or not parents encourage their children to read and make time to share books together is the most important factor associated with reading success.

It is important to realise that children, like adults, read for interest and pleasure. Parents should, therefore, try to make the reading session as enjoyable as possible. This means that almost any reading material which interests your child should be used, (e.g. comics, magazines and electronic). It is also important to talk about the reading material with your child and for your children to see adults enjoying reading.

We rely on the written word for essential communication.

It is hard to cope with everyday life in a literate community if you cannot read. Schools operate largely through the written word and children who are poor readers experience more and more problems as they get older.

Please help ensure your child brings their reading book home every evening, reads regularly at home and returns reading books, the reading diary and homework to school each day. There is further useful information for parents inside the reading diary on the first page.

Listening to Reading - General Points

When you listen to your child read, your aim should be to build self-confidence and encourage your child to work things out independently.

- ✓ **All children should be encouraged to read aloud to an adult throughout their Primary school years.**

- ✓ **It is often worthwhile to select or encourage reading material around a special interest or hobby that your child has.**
- ✓ **Don't restrict reading to the fiction book sent home from school.**
- ✓ **Be positive and praise your child frequently.**
- ✓ **Keep the sessions short.**
- ✓ **Try to establish a daily routine.**
- ✓ **Sit comfortably side by side.**
- ✓ **Avoid interruptions eg television or other children.**

Other Ideas for Helping Your Child with Reading.

Before you begin to read a book get a "feel" for the book by looking at the cover and predicting what the story is about.

At school the children are taught to "sound out" letters or groups of letters in a word; so if they come to a difficult word let them have a go using their phonic skills.

Praising children after these attempts will build up their self confidence and self esteem.

If there are pictures in the book make time to look for little details to help your child to understand what the book is about.

Selecting a book

Really, there is only one rule about the type of book your child should read. Do they find the book interesting?

Therefore, the best books are the ones which your child likes. If your child would like to read a particular book that is not available in school please let your child's teacher know. The book will then be purchased for the class library.

Home/School Partnership

If you have any questions regarding your child's reading please contact your child's class teacher.