



KS2 Reading Parent Workshop

The following questions will give you some ideas about what to speak to your children about.

Questions to ask before you read...

- What is the title of the book?
- What kind of book is it? (Fiction, non-fiction, poetry, short story, etc)
- Who is the author/illustrator?
- Have you read any other books by the same author?
- What made you choose this book? (Author, cover, illustration, recommendation, etc)
- Could you tell anything about the book before you started reading it? What were the clues?

Questions to ask before your child begins or resumes their book...

- What has happened so far?
- What do you think will happen next? What are the clues that make you think this?
- How would you like the story to end?
- Why do you think the author has chosen that description (or word)?
- Do we get to know the characters quickly or do they build up slowly through the story?
- Are you interested in the story? Why?
- Who are the characters in the story? Who do you like/dislike them? Why?
- How do you feel about.....? Why? What words give you that impression?
- Can you explain why.....?
- What does this tell you about whatwas thinking?
- What do you think is thinking? If it were you what would you do?

Questions to ask when your child has finished their book...

- Was there anything you liked/disliked about the story?
- At what point did you decide you liked/disliked the story?
- Did you notice anything special about the way language is used in this book? (dialect, descriptive writing, word choices etc)
- If you had written this book, how would you have improved it?
- Has anything that happens in this book ever happened to you?
- Can you describe an exciting moment or favourite part of the story?
- Is the story straightforward? Is there more than one story happening at the same time?
- Who was telling the story?
- Was the ending as you expected? Did you like the way the story ended?
- Would you recommend this book to your friends? Tell me what you would say to a friend?

Suggested Authors

Some suitable authors for KS2	
Year 3 /4	Year 5/6
Nigel Hinton	Berlie Doherty
Berlie Doherty	Michael Morpurgo
Francesca Simon	Shaun Tan
Roald Dahl	RJ Palacio
Gillian Cross	Philip Pullman
Clive King	Eva Ibbotson
Dick King Smith	Frank Cottrell Boyce
Jill Murphy	Louis Sacher
Philippa Pearce	CS Lewis
Cressida Cowell	David Almond
Ted Hughes	David Walliams
Emily Gravett	Philip Ridley
Jenny Nimmo	Grace Nichols

Some 'like-for-like' Authors

Anne Fine	Francesca Simon	JK Rowling	Anthony Horowitz
Geraldine Mc Caughrean	John Gant	Jill Murphy	Charlie Higson
Jacqueline Wilson	Lauren Child	Eva Ibbotson	Robert Muchamore
Dick King Smith	Andy Stanton	Diane Wynne Jones	Eleanor Up dale
Cathy Cassidy	Chris Riddell	Darren Shan	Philip Reeve
Sarah Singleton	Alan Ahlberg	Ursula K Le Guin	Joe Craig
Adele Geras	Jan Mark	Jenny Nimmo	Marcus Sedgewick
Malorie Blackman	John Dougherty	Duncan Pile	
Michael Morpurgo	Dav Pilkey	Nigel Hinton	

Advice if getting your child to read becomes challenging

We would like all children to enjoy reading rather than see it as an effort or hard work, but we know that isn't always easy.

- Share reading activities and interact with the text together
- Offer alternative reading material, e.g. magazines, non – fiction books, comics, blogs, etc...
- Encourage reading at different times of the day or week
- Share the problem with your child's teacher, we are here to help!

Useful websites on children's books

www.ReadingZone.com

This site is dedicated to helping young people, parents and teachers to find out about children's books. Each area on the site provides information about new and classic titles with expert advice to help you find the best children's books available. There are Children's Zones with games and activities and a specialist School Zone full of helpful resources.

www.wordpool.co.uk

A site for both children and parents, with advice on choosing books and encouraging reluctant readers.

www.booktrust.org.uk

Provides a book information service and has information about awards and publications. It has links for libraries, publishers and magazines.

www.lovereadingschools.co.uk

Very useful review site with Template Reading Lists for each academic year from Year 1 to Year 9. Free downloads of the openings of books to sample once subscribed. Subscription is free.

<http://mrsmad.com>

Find book reviews and writing games.