

At Frenchay C of E Primary School we aim at the early stages of reading to introduce your child to the world of literature. We want your child not only to learn to read but to become a real reader.

In order to achieve this we introduce children to a range of books in order that they might develop a love of reading and a delight in all that books have to offer through fiction, non-fiction and poetry.



Sharing books with children is a delightful, rewarding experience. However, in order to achieve this delight and foster an enjoyment of reading, the following points are worth considering:

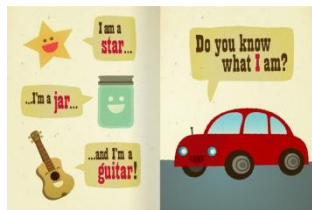
**DO** - find a quiet place to share books where you can be cosy and comfortable.

**DO** - respect your child's choice of book, - if she/he chooses the same book regularly - be positive even if you have read it to them before. Say something like "oh great I really like this book. Why do you enjoy it so much?"

**DO** - try to share books as often as possible. 10 minutes regularly is much better than longer sessions once a month. Read to your child often. Not just story books, non-fiction and poetry as well. At the beginning encourage your child to make up the story and then at a later date ask them to re-tell the story accurately.

**DO** - talk together about:

- how to hold books
- where the front/back covers are
- where the title/author is
- how to turn the pages carefully
- how to care for books etc.



**DO** - talk about the beginning, middle and end of stories, the characters, plot and setting.

**DO** - talk about what you notice in the pictures ask questions before reading the page eg. what do you think will happen next? Will Tom be happy?

**DO** - read steadily and point to words. At a later stage encourage your child to point to each word as he/she says it.



**DO** - value picture books and spend as much time sharing these as those which contain print. Encourage your child to make up the story. This is an important way for your child to learn about the structure of the spoken and written word. It develops their imagination.

**DO** - when your child becomes a more confident reader encourage him/her to discuss the book with you as well as reading it.

**DO** - encourage your child to use context clues i.e. pictures, when faced with a word they do not know.

**DO** - encourage the use of phonics ie. blending of words etc.

b a g  
bag

**DO** - show that you enjoy reading and the time you spend together.

**DO** - share and value all available reading material, i.e. comics, letters, newspapers.

**DO - PRAISE! PRAISE! PRAISE!**

**DON'T** - ask your child to sound out all words

**DON'T** - cover up the pictures

**DON'T** - put your child under pressure

**DON'T** - force your child to share a book

**DON'T** - take your child away from something she/he enjoys doing to share a book

**DON'T** - get over anxious about your child's reading development

**DO** - arrange a time to talk to your child's teacher if you have any queries

**FINALLY REMEMBER THAT THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT WHICH YOU GIVE YOUR CHILD AT HOME IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE.**

**ENJOYMENT IS THE KEY FACTOR.**



# Frenchay Church of England Primary School



**Helping your  
child become  
a reader**