

Department for Education: The Reading Framework July 2023

Overview

In July 2023 the Department for Education revised and re-issued their guidance on reading. This is aimed at all those involved in developing children as readers.

The role of the parent in developing reading is considered to be crucial; not only do parents act as role models through their own reading which children observe, but also when they talk about what they are reading and why. In- addition reading to and with children is a vital aspect of helping children to learn to read.

Given below is the guidance from the report for parents – appendix 1. However the statement in the first line that ‘Your child will bring home two books’ is aimed at those parents with primary school age pupils. Reading to and with your child/children is still important at secondary school but we do not send books home for this purpose; it is important that children have some control over what they read at this stage and therefore need to be encouraged to choose a book to share/read with you. The Learning Resource Centre has a wide selection of fiction which children can borrow and it is also worth visiting the local library and bookshops.

The full report can be found on our website and at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1178136/The_Reading_Framework_2023.pdf.

If you would like any support or guidance regarding helping your child/children in their reading (how to choose an appropriate book etc) then please do not hesitate to contact us at thebluecoatschoollibrary@bluecoatschool.org.uk

Appendix 1 of the report follows on the next page.

Miss Christine Smith (LRC Manager)

Appendix 1.

For parents: reading stories to children

The following has been drawn together to provide the basis for a leaflet schools might create for parents and carers. Further guidance is available: 10 top tips for parents to support children to read.

Introduction

Your child will bring home two books. One is for your child to read to you. It has been carefully chosen so that they can work out all the words. The other book has words your child may not be able to read yet. It is for you to read to your child and talk about together.

How to read a story to your child

If you can find the time beforehand, read the read-aloud book to yourself first, so you can think about how you're going to read it to your child.

On the first reading:

- Make reading aloud feel like a treat. Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book.
- Show curiosity about what you're going to read: 'This book looks interesting. It's about an angry child. I wonder how angry he gets...'
- Read through the whole story the first time without stopping too much. Let the story weave its own magic.
- Read with enjoyment. If you're not enjoying it, your child won't. Read favourite stories over and over again.

On later readings:

- Let your child pause, think about and comment on the pictures.
- If you think your child did not understand something, try to explain: 'Oh! I think what's happening here is that...'
- Chat about the story and pictures: 'I wonder why she did that?'; 'Oh no, I hope she's not going to...'; 'I wouldn't have done that, would you?'
- Link the stories to your own family experiences: 'This reminds me of when ...'
- Link stories to others that your child knows: 'Ah! Do you remember the dragon in? Do you remember what happened to him?'
- Encourage your child to join in with the bits they know.
- Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.
- Avoid telling children that reading stories is good for them.