

## Supporting your child's reading in Year 4

Learning to read is a significant milestone in any child's life, and one that will bring many benefits over an entire lifetime. You play an important role in modelling reading behaviours and supporting your child's reading efforts. You make a difference to how your child will discover the world of literacy and how they view themselves as a reader.

**What can you do to help your child become a reader?**

**What can you do to help support your child's reading skills?**



### In Year 4 your child will:

#### Vocabulary knowledge

- ✓ understand that some words have different meanings when they are used in different situations
- ✓ use specific words to describe and explain their thinking
- ✓ use a dictionary and a thesaurus

#### Comprehension

- ✓ make connections to explain the meaning of information
- ✓ create outlines to show understanding of what has been read
- ✓ discuss ways that language can change meaning

#### Reading Texts

- ✓ read for 15-20 minutes at a time
- ✓ remember details of what has been read for several days
- ✓ read short chapter books related to the curriculum
- ✓ read unfamiliar and unusual words

## Ways you can help your child's reading in Year 4

**Take the lead** Start reading series books together, choosing more difficult books as time goes by. Share the reading with your child and encourage them to read a page at a time, or a paragraph or the titles.

**And, action!** Encourage your child to use expression, tone, volume and pace when reading. Sometimes you can turn it into a performance or you could record it on your phone or device.

**Making links** Ask questions that help your child make links between the reading and their knowledge, their real life experiences, events and happenings, what they may have seen in a movie or on TV. Model doing this yourself, 'Remember when we went to the beach last holiday, the lightning was frightening. Why did we have to ...?'

**Record your reading** Use a device to record your child's reading, have them listen back to it and reflect on their fluency, expression, pace and accuracy. Have your child incorporate their own feedback and record again.

**Five 'w's** Ask why, when, where, who and what questions to help your child retrieve important information and ideas from the material they have been reading.

**Write about it** Encourage your child to keep a reading journal to write their thoughts, ideas and questions about the books they are reading.

**Talk to your child's teacher about how you can support your child's reading.**