

Creating Young readers - some ideas for parents.



At Heathlands the Lower School children use reading scheme books to help them learn to read. Your child will be bringing their reading book home every day for you to read with them.

- Please make sure the reading books are returned every day with their home school books as we need them to read with the children in school.
- Please try and read every evening with your child if they are not too tired.



Each child will have a comments and vocabulary book in the bag with their reading book.



Please write when you have read with your child- including the date, how many pages you have read and any new vocabulary they come across. You might also want to write any comments about how they responded to the book.

It really helps teachers to have comments from parents and a record of when they have read.

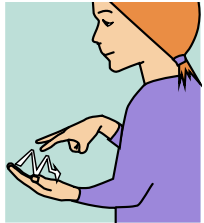
If you have any questions or observations about your child's reading at any time do let your child's teacher know.

Make your home a 'reading friendly' home

Reading is one of the most valuable skills children can learn. Children who read at home with their families become better readers.



- Have plenty of books at home
- Take your child to join a local library
- Visit the library regularly and borrow books.
- Let your child see adults reading
- Talk about books and stories with your child



- Make time in the day for reading
- Read all sorts of things - newspapers, subtitles, magazines, cereal packets etc.
- Read books to your child
- Listen and watch your child read
- Tell your child stories
- Write notes for your child to read (stuck on the fridge or on their pillow at bedtime?)
- Point out notices you see when you are out with your child.



Remember, reading other books and enjoying sharing stories together is just as valuable as reading your school books.

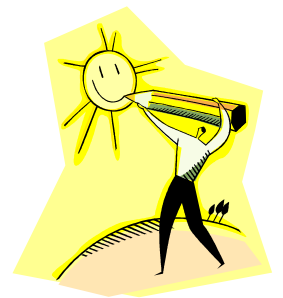
Make reading fun!

Using the reading scheme books with your child



- Read the story perhaps to a younger sibling.
- When reading with a grown up, read a page each.
- Tell the first part of the story (with the book shut) and then read the second part.
- Choose your favourite character from the story, explain why and imagine what their favourite food is or what games they would like.

- Draw a picture of where the story is set.
- Play games with the story i.e. change the people in the story to your own family etc.
- Talk about, draw or write alternative endings to the story or imagine what happens next.
- Act out the story
- Get your child to retell the story in their own words without looking at the book.



- Go on a capital letter and full stop hunt. How many did you find?
- Cover a word in the text. Can you work out what the hidden word says?
- Film your child reading or retelling the story.

If you need more support with signing and reading with your child contact your class teacher.

The BSL centre can offer sign language training to parents or we may be able to suggest local agencies for parents who live at a distance.

