



Be the Best that You can Be

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School Based Support Team



Developing and Enhancing Reading Ability

Reading is a stepping stone toward all other forms of learning. Reading allows us to take in and engage with a variety of materials that are presented to us.



Sometimes reading isn't so easy and our learners and children may have specific barriers to learning that limit their ability to read with fluency, with understanding, and sometimes altogether.

There are a number of supportive strategies that can be put in place to assist learners with reading – with their decoding of words, fluency of reading or comprehension of texts. There are also many ways parents can assist in encouraging their children with reading.

The More
that you read,
the More things
you will know.
The More that you
Learn,
the More places you'll go.



For Younger Readers

For younger or less experienced readers, the following are some ways to create an awareness of reading and develop some early literacy skills:

Narrative Skills

Tell stories together, encourage pretend play and let your child be a storyteller

Letter Knowledge

Help your child identify the first letter in their name and find it in books, or street signs etc

Print Awareness

Help your child discover how to hold a book and turn the pages. Ask them to identify which parts are words, which are pictures

Phonological Awareness

Sing songs, play games and share rhymes to help your child play with the smaller sounds in words

Print Motivation

Find books that match your child's interests and share them often

Vocabulary

Teach your child the specific names of things, like vegetables at the shop





















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For More Experienced Readers

Once the 'basics' of reading have been learnt it is important for learners to be able to read with understanding and comprehension. While reading a book the following strategies are helpful to obtain a deeper understanding of what is being read. In the classroom and at home our learners should be encouraged to adopt some, if not all, of these strategies:

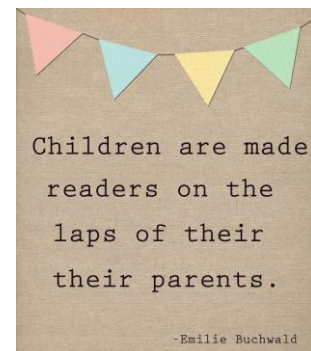
USE BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE 	ASK QUESTIONS 	IDENTIFY THE AUTHOR'S PURPOSE 	IDENTIFY THE MAIN IDEA 
RECOGNIZE SEQUENCE 	RECOGNIZE CAUSE AND EFFECT 	MAKE INFERENCES 	MAKE PREDICTIONS 
SUMMARIZE 	DISTINGUISH BETWEEN FACT AND OPINION 	FIND FACTS AND DETAILS 	RECOGNIZE COMPARE AND CONTRAST 
MAKE CONNECTIONS 	VISUALIZE 	REREAD FOR CLARITY 	ADJUST YOUR PACING 

When your child really struggles to read

- Liaise with their teacher and obtain more information or guidance.
- Seek support – enrol them in a reading program or get a tutor who can assist them.
- Read their assignments or question papers to them.
- Provide them with audiobooks or text to speech technology to allow them to work independently.
- Apply for them to make use of a reader during their examinations.

How can you help your child at home?

- Set a positive reading ethos in your home
- Set a designated daily reading time for your child
- Make reading material, in all shapes and forms, available in your home
- Ask your child questions about what they're reading
- Read aloud to them. Ask your children to read to each other too.



- Encourage reading activities - ask your child to read road signs, menus, classifieds and movie posters.
- Encourage your child to visit the library at their school - show interest in what they've chosen to read.
- Play games that encourage awareness of letters and reading – games like 'I spy' are fun and educational.
- Encourage visualisation - if there is a movie, watch it after reading the book

