

Useful tips for Reading at Home



Completing Reading Records

Listed below are some comments which may help you when writing in your child's reading record to describe how your child has read to you at home. The statements below are just a guide; please feel free to alter the wording and write what best suits your experiences.

<i>Word skills</i>	<i>Comprehension skills</i>	<i>Attitude and Interest</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Read all the words correctly.✓ Read familiar words independently.✓ Found some words difficult.✓ Tried hard to work out new words.✓ Worked out new words by sounding them out and blending.✓ Needs to practise again to reinforce the words Was able to work out new words using the pictures to help.✓ Used the picture cues and the first sound of a word to work out words.✓ Self-corrected own errors independently Read the book fluently.✓ Reading is sounding robotic and stilted.✓ He/she made several errors because he/she was not looking carefully enough Able to read the book with lots of help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Understood the story well.✓ Good discussion about events in the story. Retold the story in detail.✓ Able to predict what might happen next.✓ Could talk about the story confidently.✓ Could identify the characters in the book.✓ Answered questions about the content of the book.✓ Needs to read again to improve understanding.✓ Used the pictures to help with their understanding.✓ Needed lots of help to understand the main events.✓ Did not understand what they read.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Was excited and motivated to read.✓ Enjoyed the story because✓ Fantastic expression.✓ Would benefit from reading the book again to improve fluency.✓ Has learnt all about..... and could explain in own words.✓ Struggled to concentrate.✓ Was reluctant to read tonight.✓ Found the book too hard to read.

If reading becomes difficult at home:

Reading must be enjoyed to gain maximum benefit. It is important that your child reads every day, but if they are reluctant to do so:

- ✓ *Avoid confrontation.*
- ✓ *Offer alternative reading material e.g. internet access, magazines that the children have an interest in (non-fiction sometimes appeals more than fiction), an old and familiar book.*
- ✓ *Encourage reading at different times of the day or week (or even in different settings e.g. sofa, bedroom, table)*
- ✓ *Try a 'little and often' approach to practising reading.*
- ✓ *Borrow audiobooks from the library or listen online to encourage a love of language e.g. listen to audiobooks on journeys, at bedtime etc.*
- ✓ *Share reading activities and interact with the text together e.g. work together on the internet to explore a football team website etc.*
- ✓ *Read to your child regularly – it may encourage them to want to read to you too!*