



Reading at home

At Long Sutton School we know that the skill of reading and a love of books are some of the most important things we can give a child. With this in mind, we have created a list of ideas and information to help you support your child's reading at home. Studies have shown that children who **read regularly at home** make **significant progress** in their reading. We teach children the skills they need to read, but it is your job to support them to embed these skills - daily practice is the only way your child will make progress.

Reading to your child is equally important - it helps to create a sense of well-being, develops your child's vocabulary and increases their concentration and understanding of the world.

Here are some helpful strategies for you to try at home:

1. Read, read, read - take every opportunity that you can to read to, and with your child. Audio stories are also a great way for children to hear new language and story ideas.
2. Read and re-read your child's favourite books together. Most children have a favourite book that they like to read again and again - go with this, even though you have read it a million times!
3. Talk about what you have read and ask them what they liked or didn't like about the story/book.
4. Read with different voices and encourage your child to join in with different parts of the story.
5. Let them see you reading - you could have some quiet time when you both read alone but together, even if it is for a short amount of time.
6. Go to the local library - it is great for your child to be able to choose the books that they are interested in.



Choosing and changing books at school

There are **two types** of books that your child will bring home:

1. A **story book** which children will be able to choose and borrow from our class library **for you to read to them**. Please send it back in the book bag when you have finished it. You may keep for as long as your child wants it and if you need more time to explore it or to read it again.
2. A **phonically decodable reading book** which your child will read to you. This book should be read by your child at home **three times** in total. This is to enable your child to build their confidence and to develop fluency. Encourage your child to read their school reading book everyday, but at least five times a week. **Children who read daily make faster progress, children who don't read daily make much slower progress and could take months or even years to catch up to their peers.**

The reading record

This is a record of the books your child has read. Please write the title of the book and any comments you wish to make and sign it. You can add the books you read to them at story time too, as we love to see what you are reading at home and this helps us to find out more about your child's favourite stories and books, many of which we will probably have at school too. **Please remember to bring the reading books and reading record into school everyday.**

A note about book bags - please do not put any water bottles, suncream or fruit snacks in the book bags as they often leak and damage the books.

If you have any questions please talk to Mrs Manzi.