



Gilbert Colvin - Reading at Home

In all year groups, we encourage children to read at home every day. Parents and carers play a significant role in early reading development. Adults who engage their children in books enable them to become committed and enthusiastic readers. Sharing a book together with your child gives you both the opportunity to escape into another world. Reading for pleasure supports children to develop their vocabulary, communication, empathy, imagination and concentration skills.

We advise that all children read for at least 10 minutes a day. Ideally, 20 minutes a day would be the most beneficial.

Reading for just 20 minutes a day = 1.8 million words a year!



Expectations

Reading is an essential part of your child's homework. **It is important to read with your child at least 3 times a week** (however we encourage you to do this every night). This can be a mixture of reading with support from an adult and independent reading. You can share their home reading book, a magazine, a newspaper, a library book, or any other book that your child

enjoys.

Children in years 2 -6 are also expected to complete an online quiz, after completing a book. The quizzes can be found on Accelerated Reader. Our unique school page can be reached by scanning the QR code at the bottom of this page. Children will need to log in and then complete a short quiz about the book that they have just read. This will check their understanding of the text and it allows teachers to support any areas of difficulty.

Reading Records

Every child at Gilbert Colvin has a Reading Record. Children can record in here what they have been reading. It also provides an opportunity for parents/carers to comment on their child's reading. It is important that Reading Records are in school daily to enable teachers to check, acknowledge and offer support as needed. We ask parents/carers to write in their child's reading records at least once a week. All that is needed is the date, a signature, the book title and a comment about how your child has read. Older children may also write when a quiz has been completed and the score that they have achieved.



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.

Suggested comments for Reading Records

- Read familiar words independently
- Able to predict what happens next in the text
- Showed good understanding of the text
- Read with good expression
- Worked out new words independently
- Worked out new words by sounding them out
- Discussed the story and characters well
- Used good spoken expression
- Enjoyed reading this book a lot
- Self-corrected own errors independently
- Used the picture cues and the first sound of a word to work out words
- Read with fluency and expression
- Able to read this book, but with lots of prompting
- Found it hard to retell the story
- Found this book challenging
- Found this book too challenging
- Did not understand the key vocabulary in the book
- Did not enjoy this book because...
- Using expression was challenging

Recommended Reading Lists

Your child has also been given a list of books that are recommended for their age group. The list contains **50 books that have been specially picked out for reading for pleasure in their year group.**



We are challenging all children to read as many of these books as they can. Children can use the sheet provided to tick off the ones that they have read. Anybody that manages to read all 50 will receive a certificate. Many of these books can be found in school, or alternatively they can be found in the local Library.

Possible questions to ask your child

These questions will support conversations about what your child has read. They are not intended to be used all at once or every time you read with your child. Use them whenever you feel they are appropriate.

Questions to ask before you read

- Can you look at the pictures and predict what you think will happen in this book?
- What makes you think that?
- What characters do you think might be in our story?
- Do you think there will be a problem in this story? Why or why not?
- Does the topic/story relate to you or your family? How?

Questions to ask during the reading

- What do you think will happen next?
- What can you tell me about the story so far?
- Can you predict how the story will end?
- Why do you think the character did _____?
- What would you have done if you were the character?
- How would you feel if you were the character? (use different characters)
- As I read _____, it made me picture _____ in my head. What pictures did you see in your head?
- As you read, what are you wondering about?
- Can you summarise what you have just read?

Questions to ask after reading

- Can you remember when/where/who/why _____?
- In your opinion, was it a good title for this book? Why or why not?
- Were your predictions about the story, correct?
- If there was a problem, did it get solved?
- What happened because of the problem?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What is the most important point the author is trying to make in his/her writing?
- What was your favourite part of the story?
- If you could change one thing in the story, what would it be?
- Can you retell the story in order?
- If you were _____, how would you feel?
- What is the most interesting situation in the story?
- Is there a character in the story like you? How are you alike?
- Why did you like this book?

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