

Reading at home

To continue to develop a healthy mind and keep children engaged reading can be used as an amazing tool, reading is not simply about the text in front of them and covers a vast range of key elements within learning. The information below is for inspiration and not an expectation for you to make a commitment to making any purchases. The books in the links below have been identified as quality reads for children within the age group, they are a recommendation for your child and may also offer ideas.

A noteworthy point is that reading is not simply about the ability to identify the text on a page or screen but to understand it. Children need the skills of reading to scaffold their learning in other areas of development, building on their comprehension and understanding talking about what they like, don't like or would change in the story. It builds their imagination and creative influences as they internalize their thoughts and share them. Even the simplicity that in English stories and books we read left to right, how to hold a book and to look for identification of the contents from the covers.

It is key to build their love of reading which will be passed down from you, this reading can include magazines, newspapers or recipe books. Building that desire to read a book of any kind will show to be a huge benefit for all their learning.

This is a list from the Book Trust detailing their recommended reads for children under 5 years:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-0-5/>

This link offers the Book Trust's recommended reads for older child or more challenging reads:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/100-best-books/>

Penguin books also offer a recommended reading list for children under 5 years old that you may find useful:

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/children/2019/apr/must-read-books-for-under-5s.html>

The National Literacy Trust offers ideas to support speaking, listening and conversation skills in a selection of activities:

<https://small-talk.org.uk/3-5-years/>

This information is also available for younger children and still offers ideas at supporting your child to develop their speaking skills:

<https://small-talk.org.uk/>

Another list of recommended reads for children that also offers a selection of reads for more able or older children:

<https://www.timeout.com/london/kids/the-100-best-childrens-books>

This link contains lots of information, games and ideas you can use to support your child's development not just in reading offering ideas for learning opportunities through play and more.

<http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/3-5>