



Overthorpe C of E Academy

Guide for Reading at Home

In Key Stage Two we move away from phonics for most children and we begin to teach understanding (comprehension) and new vocabulary in more depth.

In school, we teach children 5 skills for comprehension. This allows them to learn to understand a book and think more deeply about its meaning.

We also encourage children to read for pleasure and to talk about which books they like and don't like.

The 5 Comprehension Skills

The 5 comprehension skills taught in schools are:

- Vocabulary
- Inference
- Prediction
- Explanation
- Retrieval
- Summarising

Together these 5 skills spell VIPERS.

VIPERS

If you are hearing your child read, asking them questions or discussing meaning along the way helps to strengthen their understanding.

Vocabulary: children pick up new vocabulary in books very quickly and work out meaning from the rest of the sentence. Ask your child what words mean as they read. Can they think of any other words that mean the same thing? Can they use it in a sentence?

Vocabulary is extremely important to help your children to write and read well.

Inference: Inference is the ability to use clues in the text to work out an answer to a question. For example if the sun is shining in the book, you could ask ... what season might it be? Your child should infer summer or spring due to the sunshine, even though the book doesn't actually say that.

Prediction: Another important skill is being able to use clues in the book, pictures or front cover to guess what is going to happen next and back this up with evidence.

I think will happen, because

It is also good if your child can think back to earlier events in the book or to other books or their own experience to make a prediction.

Explanation: Can your child explain why something is happening? Can they give a "because" answer to a question?

Retrieval: Picking simple facts from a book e.g. where does the character live? How many children live in the house? The answers are there in the text for the child to retrieve.

Summarising: Can your child recap on the last chapter, or put events in order. Can they say what the book or chapter is about in 20 words? 10 words? 5 words?

Please see overleaf for a guide to reading together.

Reading with your Child in KS2

As your child gets older, they may prefer to read alone. In which case, a quick discussion or a couple of questions about what they have read will let you know what they have understood. This is fine and we are happy for you to sign the reading diary after this.

Children in Lower Key Stage would still benefit from reading with an adult. If your child is on a phonics reader, there are guides to help you to read with your child inside the front and back covers of the reading books.

If your child is a free reader, take it in turns to read so that your child sees you reading and showing them how to use expression and work out new words. Ask a few questions from one of the VIPERS sections as you come to parts of the book where you might need a reading break e.g the end of a page or chapter.

Please aim to sign your child's reading diary at least three times per week.

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Reading at Home

KS2



This guide provides some information and advice for parents about our current reading strategy and how to help your child to read at home.