

Children should be reading about fifteen minutes per evening. Regular reading at home will support all areas of learning at school.

How to help your child develop their reading skills in Year 3

- When your child is reading aloud, encourage them to pay attention to the punctuation
- Point out different types of punctuation such as speech marks, commas, exclamation marks
- At home use dictionaries or encyclopaedias and use the alphabet to find words/ topics
- In non-fiction texts look at the different features such as labels, diagrams and charts
- Discuss word meanings so that your child develops a wide and varied vocabulary
- Point out words and phrases that catch your attention and imagination
- Talk about what different characters might be thinking and why you think that
- Read books by the same author and talk about how the books are similar/ different
- Encourage your child to retell familiar stories

Questions to ask your child when reading

Fiction

- Which words and phrases tell you more about the characters?
- Which words and phrases tell you about the setting?
- How did the characters feelings change over the story?
- What is your favourite part of the story and why?
- Why does the author use those words...?
- Which part of the text tells you most about the characters thoughts?
- Can you think of another story similar to this one?
- Point to the adjectives/ nouns/ verbs...

Non-fiction

- What is the main purpose of the text?
- Which part of the text tells you most about...?
- How does the layout of the text help you to understand?
- What is this paragraph about...?
- How does the diagram help you to understand?

