

One of a series of fact sheets based on frequently asked questions (FAQs)

RCCS FAQs: HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING



Reading, whether it be books, magazines, poems or plays has the power to transport people to other places and times. It is a fundamental life skill and children need to know that adults in their lives hold reading in high regard. Research has suggested that parental involvement in reading is important in helping students fulfil their potential.

What should my child be reading?

A variety of literature should be encouraged. Books, magazines, newspapers, leaflets and educational websites can be used. The key here is to provide exciting reading material that interests the child.

How often and for how long should they read?

This will vary depending on the willingness of the child. Forced reading should be avoided instead you could try setting 'reading time' into the evening routine. Some children will read happily for hours whilst others will only manage 10 minutes. In the latter try to steadily increase the 'reading time' it could be that the whole family use this time for reading.

My child is reluctant to read, what can I do?

Model reading regularly. Make sure your child sees you and other role models reading for pleasure. Take an interest in what they are reading and discuss issues raised from the text.

Should I listen to my child read?

Yes. Whatever their age reading aloud encourages children to read with expression. Older children could read to younger children and vice versa. Shared reading benefits everyone!



“The more you read, the more you know.
The more that you learn, the more
places you’ll go.” - Dr Seuss