



# Key Stage 2 Reading

A guide for  
Parents & Carers



- In KS2 at Southville Primary there is a daily whole class reading session for every child each day.
- The daily use of the Whole Class Reading '7 Reading Strategies' ensure that all children get the opportunity to analyse, discuss and respond to texts in a variety of ways.
- Children from reception to year 6 use the Oxford Reading Tree Scheme, supplemented by Read, Write Inc. books and equivalent Book Banded Texts.
- There is a designated story time at the end of every day.
- Through careful planning we make sure that all children are exposed to a wide range of genres and text types.
- **Records of book loans are monitored by class teachers. KS2 use reading records.**
- **Children are expected to read nightly** and use a book bag which is brought to school daily. At teachers' discretion more able children in years 5 and 6 may not need to select reading scheme books, as long as they have demonstrated that they have already read a wide variety of the ORT texts and that they are selecting reading material that is appropriately challenging.

## Reading Aloud to Your Child

Research has shown that reading aloud to children of all ages helps them to develop their writing skills. This is because it helps pupils to develop their knowledge of language and story structure. It also provides them with a greater range of ideas which they can use in their own writing, and gives them access to texts that may be too complex for them to read alone. At Southville Primary, we regularly read books aloud to pupils in all KS2 classes, and we would encourage parents to continue enjoying the pleasure of sharing stories even after their child has become a confident and independent reader.

It is also important that your child has the opportunity to discuss what they have read to demonstrate their understanding and to enable them to think more carefully about the text.

Below there are a range of questions which can be used and adapted when discussing texts with your child. Please use your own judgement when choosing questions, bearing in mind the comments about keeping reading sessions light and enjoyable, and the age/reading ability of your child.

### Non-fiction Books

- *What have you learnt from your reading today?*
- *Who do you think would find this book most interesting and useful?*
- *How is the information arranged on each page?*
- *How does the way that the information is set out help you to understand it?*

- *Here it says (point to the contents page) ..... is on page ... What do you think that page will be about?*
- *How would you use the index to find something out?*
- *Could you suggest any ways in which your book could be improved?*

## **Poetry**

- *Can you find out who wrote this poem and when it was written?*
- *What pictures did it make you think of as you read the poem?*
- *What is the poem about?*
- *What is the poet trying to do or say?*
- *What is it about the poem that you liked?*
- *How do you think the poet is feeling about what they are writing about?*
- *What 'poetic features' can you identify? ( rhyme, rhythm, alliteration etc)*
- *Did the poem remind you of anything else that you have read?*
- *Does the shape the poem makes on the page, or the sounds it makes when you read it, add to the message?*

## **Fiction Books**

### **Questions about characters**

- *What does ..... look like? Use parts of the story to explain how you know this.*
- *What sort of things does ..... get up to?*
- *Why do you think that ..... behaves in the way that he/she does?*
- *What have you learned about .....? Where did you get this from?*

- *Would you like to have ..... as a friend? Why/why not?*
- *How did ..... feel at the beginning/middle/end of the story?*  
*How do you know this?*
- *Do you feel that you are in any way similar to .....? In what way?*
- *Do you think that ..... changed in any way during the story?*  
*How and why did these changes happen?*
- *Why do you think ..... said "....."?*

### **Questions about settings**

- *Where do the main events take place?*
- *What effect does the setting have on the story?*
- *When do the main events take place?*
- *Does the timing of these events have an effect on the story?*
- *Why do you think the author chose the settings that he/she has?*
- *Do you think that the settings are well described? Why?*
- *Can you select some good description and say why you think it is so effective?*

## **General questions**

- *Does what you have read in your book today make you want to carry on reading? Why/why not?*
- *What main events have taken place in your book?*
- *What caused these events to happen?*
- *What was the result of these events?*
- *What do you think may happen next?*
- *What part of the story do you think is the funniest/saddest/most interesting?*
- *How do you think the story will end?*
- *Why do you think the book is called ....?*
- *Did anything in the book make you think about something that once happened to you?*
- *Do you think that the pictures help you to understand the book better?*
- *Do the pictures make the book more enjoyable? How?*
- *What questions would you like to ask the author?*
- *Would you recommend this book to other children?*
- *Would it appeal to all children? What sort of children do you think would like it?*