

## Comprehension Activities

Children in KS2 are often quite independent in their reading. However, KS2 children need to be given the opportunity to discuss their reading and answer questions to check they are understanding what they have read.

The following questions will help:

### **Recall Questions**

Where does the story take place?

- When did the story take place?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find...?

### **Simple Comprehension Questions**

- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might this mean?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- What words and /or phrases do this?

### **Application Questions**

- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issues; e.g. social; moral; cultural?
- Which other author handles time in this way; e.g. flashbacks; dreams?
- Which stories have openings like this?

### **Analytical Questions**

- What makes you think that?
- What words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about...?
- Can you explain why...?
- I wonder what the writer intended?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?
- What do these words mean and why were they chosen?

## KS2 Book levels

Stage 9	Expected Year 2
Stage 10	Expected + Year 2
Stage 11	Beginning Year 3
Stage 12	Expected Year 3
Stage 13	Expected Year 4
Stage 14	Expected Year 5
Stage 15	Expected Year 6
Stage 16	Expected +Year 6

Please be aware that children need to be able to decode, comprehend and read fluently the books at each stage before moving on to a new level.

Reading Karate bands:

When the yellow reading journal has been signed by an adult this means that the read will be counted towards a coloured reading band which are given at Christmas, Easter and at the end of the year.

If a child does not understand what they have read or they say they have finished a book when they have not - they may be encouraged to read the book again. If they don't enjoy the book after a second attempt or they are struggling with it, all efforts will be made to find another book they might enjoy more.

# Reading at St. Mary's in KS2



**Helping your child at home**

# Reading in Key Stage 2- How can you help your child at home?

During Key Stage 2, your child will be bringing home a numbered 'stage' book. Your child is now able to read more confidently and independently. However, even though your children may spend more time reading quietly to themselves, parents still have an important role in helping them to continue developing their reading skills.

## You can help your child by:

Encouraging your child to read at home.

Listening whilst your child reads.

Keeping reading sessions short and light-hearted.

Sharing a book and reading it aloud with your child, modelling expression and fluency.

Recapping any difficult words and explaining their meaning.

Discussing what has been read and questioning your child about their understanding (the questions in this leaflet may help.)



## Reading Aloud to Your Child

Research has shown that reading aloud to children of all ages helps them to develop their vocabulary skills which in turn can impact future academic success.

This is because reading helps pupils to develop their knowledge of language and story structure. Reading traditional fairy tales is particularly important as these contain the basic story elements and simple structures which help children to understand how stories work.

Learning songs and rhymes prepares children for the sounds and patterns in language and provides a vital part of their language development.

## Fostering a love of Reading

It is also valuable for children to see adults enjoying reading themselves. Showing your child that you yourself enjoy reading a book or newspaper can help them to see the purpose for reading, and encourage them to become a reader.

Other ways to engage children as readers include listening to audio books, visiting the library or a book shop to choose their own books and sharing books with their siblings. Reading should never be a chore. Helping your child to develop a love of books now will help them to develop as independent readers as they get older.

## Progressing through the book levels:

In order to move up through the book levels, a child must be able to:

- Sound out 95% of the words in the book accurately
- They must be able to answer questions on their reading which show their understanding
- Read with fluency- can they read with expression, intonation and with enough speed to keep the text flowing? The assessment guidelines suggest that Year 2 children should be able to read 90 words per minute.

## To help with fluency:

- Re-read the same text more than once so that your child can become familiar with the words in the text and can read with intonation and expression.
- Read the text to your child with expression so that your child knows how reading aloud should sound.
- Read sentences aloud and have your child repeat them back in the same way.

