

# Balgreen Primary School



## Supporting Reading at Home

## Primary 1 - 3

### The Approach

1. The whole book - enjoying
2. The sentence -pursuit of meaning
3. The words - author's use of language
4. The sounds - decoding



Children receive three reading lessons each week where we focus on reading aloud and comprehension skills

### Supporting at Home

All children in Primary 1 - 3 will bring a reading book home (P1 not until October/November)

It is helpful if you can do the following types of activities (different activities each night):

- read the book to the child
- read the book with the child
- hear the child read the book
- discuss the author and title
- stop occasionally and discuss what is happening in the pictures
- stop occasionally and predict what might happen next
- Relate the story to their own personal experiences
- Discuss the story generally
  - How did the story make them feel? Why?
  - What was their favourite part? Why
  - Did they like the ending?
  - Can they think of an alternative ending?
- Can they **re-tell** the story in their own words?
- how is the character feeling and why?

Talk about part of the story e.g.

- Sequence events in the story (what happened first, next, after that)
- Reasons for events - Why do you think this happened?
- Characters' behaviour, feelings and relationships and relate these to their own experiences.
- Find tricky words - what do they mean?
- Find favourite words/phrases
- Find a word that rhymes with.....
- How many sentences are on page 6? How do you know?
- Why has "Floppy" got a capital letter?
- Find the biggest/smallest word.
- Find a word that means the same as/opposite of ...
- Which word tells us how ..... is feeling?
- How do you know that ..... is speaking?
- Why is there an ! on page 6? What is it called?
- Draw a question mark in the air and find one on page ....
- How could you join the two sentences on page ...?



( If the pupil answers YES or NO then the question is too "skinny" - try to avoid Yes/No questions)

## Primary 4 - 7

Once your child has become a fluent reader, they will no longer bring a reading book home. Instead, we encourage them to read for enjoyment at home. This could be fiction, non-fiction, magazines, graphic novels, newspapers anything they enjoy reading!

They will continue to study a book in school and have three reading sessions per week, which will focus on reading aloud or silently and comprehension skills.

### Supporting at Home

You can continue to support your child's reading development at home by encouraging them to read widely and talking to them about the text.

For example

#### Fiction Texts

- What is the atmosphere of this chapter? What makes you think that?
- What was the main event in this chapter?
- What do you think about the action/main event? Why?
- How did the main character feel about that? How do you know?
- Was the character justified in his actions?
- What effect did his actions have on the other characters? What words give you that impression?
- Can you explain why you think the main event happened?
- What do you think might happen next? What makes you think that?
- Is there anything that puzzles you?
- Where do you think the author has been the most effective? Why?
- Think of an alternative beginning or ending for the text
- Design a new cover and title for book
- Predict what will happen next in the book.
- Grammar Hunt - read and find a given number of nouns or verbs, adverbs, pronouns etc
- Find the longest/trickiest word from each page in the chapter and teach each other how to spell them
- Find 10 adjectives/adverbs and give alternatives.
- Look in text for alternatives to "said"
- Summarise the chapter by identifying the key points
- Look for the techniques the author has used to make the reader feel a certain way about a character

**( If the pupil answers YES or NO then the question is too "skinny" - try to avoid Yes/No questions)**

#### Non-Fiction

- Discuss cover, type of genre and what information they may expect to be in the book
- Discuss what they already know about this topic
- What do you want to find out from the book?
- What will help you find the information - contents, index, headings, sub-headings

- What have you found out - what can you teach me?
- What was the most interesting/funniest/useful fact?
- Tell me what you learned in your own words.

MOST IMPORTANTLY ENJOY READING WITH YOUR CHILD.

### Useful Websites

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/onlinestory.htm>

<http://www.starfall.com/>

<http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

<http://www.myonlinereading.com/>

<http://www.magickeys.com/books/>

<http://pbskids.org/games/reading.html>



