



Briercliffe Primary School

Years 5 & 6

**Reading - How can you help
your child at home?**

Why is reading important?

- Reading is the key to accessing our curriculum independently
- Reading will improve their test results
- Reading improves memory function
- Reading will improve future life opportunities

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
LEARN,
the MORE places you'll go.



Tips for reading at home

- Make it routine – set a regular time, three times a week, such as before bed
- Be engaging – use different voices, ask questions and discuss pictures
- Be patient - remember they are still learning
- Take it in turns – read a page to your child, listen to your child read a page
- Practice makes perfect
- Celebrate their effort
- Visit the library
- Read a section or a character at a time
- Read a book of your choice to your child
- Read something that interest them (a match programme, magazine, a celebrities biography such as Marcus Rashford)
- Did you know Briercliffe have a book bus stop at the top of Burnley Road where books are free to borrow?

But what if they're struggling to read words?

- Encourage them to use their phonics
- Split up the word into smaller chunks
- Miss out the word, read to the end of the sentence and then go back and try to work out what the word might be
- Look at the picture for clues
- Don't correct every mistake
- Look back at the year 3/4 reading powerpoint

Not got time?

- Couple of pages / 5 minutes
- In the car
- Before bed
- At breakfast time
- While your cooking tea
- On the way to clubs
- Read to other family members
- Read to an older sibling (if they have one)

What questions can I ask them?

2a

Give / explain the meaning of words in context

Please ask your children some of these questions to help with vocabulary:

- Find and copy one word meaning...
- Find and copy one word that suggests/shows that...
- Can you give the meaning of the word... in this sentence?
- What impression does this group of words give you?

Examples

- Find and copy one word from the first paragraph that means 'nervous'

I was ready. No one had ever watched me before. Jittery though I was, I trusted Ned to be straight with me. He saw all the acts go in and out of the ring, so he'd know a star turn if he saw one.

Top tips – questions to ask your child to help them find the answer.

- Have you heard the word nervous before? Where and when?
- What is the word class? (e.g. noun, verb, adjective)
- What does nervous mean? How do you act when you are nervous?
- Do you know any synonyms for nervous?
- Can you find any in the text?

Examples

- What does the word “static” mean in this context?

Everything he taught me! [Laughs] He taught me everything. One main thing: if you want to juggle, try and take dance classes. Do some other stuff, especially dance and acting. It helps you be a better performer. As a performer, you should be able to move well onstage and present yourself. It's very important. I was lucky because my parents started taking me to dance classes when I was four years old. That's a big part of it. My act is more performance juggling. I do movement and acrobatics, so it's not just static juggling. It makes it more interesting.

Top tips – questions to ask your child to help them find the answer.

- Find the word in the text.
- Read the sentence it is in.
- Have you heard the word static before? Where and when?
- What is the word class? (e.g. noun, verb, adjective)
- What do you think it might mean?
- Do you know any synonyms for static? Could you replace it and the sentence still make sense?
- Read the sentence before and after to help you work out the meaning.

What questions can I ask them?

2b

Retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

Please ask your children some of these questions to help with retrieval of information:

- Can you say two or three things you are told about... in the text?
- (Provide your child with a statement about the text)
Can you say if it is true or false?
Can you give evidence to support your opinion?
- Can you give two reasons why...?

Examples

- Can you say if this statement is true or false?

Guide dogs must listen to the flow of traffic.

Selective disobedience is extremely important at road crossings, where the owner and dog must work very closely together to cross safely. When they reach the kerb, the dog stops and signals to the owner that they have reached a crossing. Dogs cannot recognise the colour of traffic lights, so the owner must decide when it is safe to cross the road. The owner listens to the flow of traffic to judge when the light has changed and then gives the command 'forward'. If there is no danger, the dog crosses the road. If there are cars coming, the dog waits until they pass and then crosses.

The statement is false.

Top tips – questions to ask your child to help them find the answer.

- Read the statement carefully and identify key words.
- Can you find these key words in the text?
- Read the sentence with those words in.
- Read around to check whether it is the answer you are looking for.
- Go back to your statement, is it true or false?

Examples

- Bumble bees are very important to the human race.

How are they important? Give two reasons why.

Only bumblebees are capable of buzz pollination. This is when the bee grabs the flower and produces a high-pitched buzz. This releases pollen that would otherwise stay trapped inside. Key ingredients in our diet such as tomatoes are pollinated in this way. Many other common foods such as beans and peas would also be harder to produce and much more expensive without British bumblebees.

Top tips – questions to ask your child to help them find the answer.

- Read the question and think about what you are trying to find out.
- Find the part of the text where the information is likely to be. Use subheadings to help you.
- Scan the text to find the answers you are looking for.
- Read the question and then read your answer. Have you answered it?

What questions can I ask them?

2d

Make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

Please ask your children some of these questions to help with inferring how a character is feeling, what they're thinking, their actions and motives (reason why):

- What impressions of... do you get from these two paragraphs?
- Look at the... (place in the text/paragraph).

How do you know that...?

- What evidence is there of/that...?

Give two points.

- According to the text, how did...?

Examples

The poet describes his grannie as standing *mountainous between me and my fear*. This makes her sound big and powerful.

What other impressions do you get of his grannie in the same verse?

Give **two** impressions.

Top tips – questions to ask your child to help them find the answer.

- Read the text and think about how the character act, what do they say? How are they described?
- What does this tell you about their personality? E.g. Grannie is kind.

I knew that I was safe when she was near,
She was so tall, so wide, so large, she would
Stand mountainous between me and my fear,
Yet oh, so gentle, and she understood
Every hope and dream I ever had.
She praised me lavishly when I was good,
But never punished me when I was bad.

What questions can I ask them?

2e

Predict what might happen from details stated and implied.

Please ask your children some of these questions to help with making predictions:

- Do you think that... will...?

yes/no/maybe? Explain your choice fully, using evidence from the text.

- What do you think will happen next?

What clues are there to make us think that?

Example for

2

Examples

3. Do you think that Kyle will continue to follow Chloe?

yes no

Explain your answer fully.

Top tips – questions to ask your child to help them find the answer.

- What do you know about the story so far?
- What is happening? What will happen next?
- Why? Is there something the text tells you?
- Read on. Where your predictions correct?

What questions can I ask them?

2h

Make comparisons within the text

Please ask your children some of these questions to help with making comparisons:

- What is the difference between... and...?
- What are the similarities between ... and...?

And don't forget...

The key is your enthusiasm. Your excitement about books is contagious. Even if you're tired and reading the same story for the hundredth time, your engagement teaches them that reading matters and brings joy.

