



# The Blyth Academy

## Ways to help your child with reading

Research has shown that reading to your child is the single most important thing you can do to help your son's/daughter's education.

Just 10 minutes of reading a day can make a big difference to your child's reading skills!

This booklet lists some tips you can use to help your child improve their reading.

On the back page there are some suggestions of books you may like to read with your child.

**Try some of these ways to encourage your child to read.**

**Please let us know which you find most useful!**

1. Use a finger or a card underneath the words to help your child's eyes "track" and focus on each word and letter they are sounding out.

2. Break down difficult words into individual letter sounds.

3. Tell your child to say new words out loud a few times - this helps them to 'feel' how the word sounds in their mouth. Doing this will help them to remember the word next time they see it.

4. Talk about what is happening in the story. Ask your child what they think might happen next.

5. Ask your child about the characters in the story. You can ask things like "Why do you think he/she did that?" or "How do you think he/she is feeling?"

6. Read a favourite book again and again with your son/daughter. This will help them to learn new words.

7. Tell your son/daughter one thing you like about listening to them read. This will encourage them to do it again.

8. Take it in turns to read parts of the story.

9. Try different kinds of books. Some children, particularly boys, like to read non-fiction books (these are books about real people, places, events or things).

10. Look out for other ways to encourage your son/daughter to read. Examples could be things like T.V. Listings, adverts, DVD covers, adverts and even cereal packets.

11. Join your local library - this includes our library in school. You can borrow books for free! In many libraries for a small charge you can also borrow DVDs and audio books and also access the internet.

12. Carry a book, comic or suitable magazine in your bag for you to share when you are out and about on the bus, waiting in the doctor's surgery etc.

Here are some books your child may enjoy reading.

### **Reading Age 5 and over**

Doug the Bug, by Sue Hendra  
The Further Adventures of the Owl and the Pussycat, by Julia Donaldson  
The General, by Janet Charters  
The It-Doesn't Matter Suit, by Sylvia Plath  
One World Together, by Catherine and Laurence Anholt

### **Reading Age 7 and over**

Books by Roald Dahl, including The Enormous Crocodile, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Matilda  
The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas, by David Almond  
Mr Gum and the Biscuit Billionaire, by Andy Stanton  
Insiders Alive! Earthquakes and Volcanoes by Anita Ganeri

### **For further help please contact:**

Ms.S.Coathup  
SENCo  
StudentSupport@theblythacademy.org  
01670 798100

### **Reading Age 9 and over**

The Bomber Dog by Megan Rix  
The War Horse by Michael Morpugo  
The Machine Gunners, by Robert Westall  
The Dark is Rising series, by Susan Cooper  
Harry Potter, by J.K. Rowling  
Stars series, by Laura and Luke Jennings  
Horrible History series, by Terry Deary and Martin Brown

### **Reading Age 11 and over**

Gods and Warriors by Michelle Paver  
The Princess Diaries, by Meg Cabot  
The Hobbit, by J.R.R. Tolkien  
Percy Jackson series and Heroes of Olympus series, by Rick Riordan  
Cherub series, by Robert Muchamore  
Hidden Talents by David Lubar  
What You Need To Know Now, by Isabel Thomas

### **Reading Age 14 and over**

The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins  
Creature of the Night, by Kate Thompson  
Useful Idiots, by Jan Mark  
More Than This, by Patrick Ness  
Leviathan, by Scott Westerfield  
Girls in Love by Jacqueline Wilson  
Twilight, by Stephanie Meyer