

*TEN EASY WAYS TO HELP YOUR
CHILD BECOME AN AVID READER!*

- Talk with your child about anything and everything
- Actively listen to your child
- Read to your child daily
- Tell your child stories
- Let your child tell **you** stories
- Make up nonsense words together
- Make up nonsense rhymes together
- Encourage your child to listen to audio books
- Make audio books with your child – do special voices!
- Write books with your child – either stories you have made up together, or retell favourites

The school website has links to sites with suggestions for books you might enjoy. Try this website for further reading inspiration!

<http://wordsforlife.literacytrust.org.uk/>

Children are taught to read in a variety of ways at school. Our aim is to encourage children to acquire a love of reading and regard it as a pleasurable activity that they want to pursue beyond the school gates. There are many ways that you can support your child at home in unlocking the magic of reading.

The main thing to remember is that sharing books should be fun for BOTH you and your child: make it a time that both of you look forward to. Don't try and make reading into a lesson. Try some of the strategies and tips suggested in this leaflet and ENJOY!



*PARENT INFORMATION
BOOKLET*



**Reading with your child
in Early Years and KS1**



ST PETER'S SCHOOL

SOME STRATEGIES

- ✓ **Make sure you have enough time** – you both need to be relaxed
- ✓ **Curl up together** in a comfy place
- ✓ **Look at the cover** – chat about what the book might be about
- ✓ **Model reading from left to right** by pointing to words with your finger
- ✓ **Encourage your child to use the pictures** in their books to support them
- ✓ **Discuss what is happening in the story:**
Predict what might happen next
Which character would you like to invite for tea?
Why?
What might happen to the characters when the story is finished?
- ✓ **Play about with rhyme:**
Sing songs
Read rhyming books and let your child predict the rhyming word
Play silly rhyming games
Recite rhymes together – invent actions to go with them!
- ✓ **When you are out and about** encourage your child to look for words they know

READING FOR PLEASURE

A love of reading is not only a passport to learning but is also one of the most rewarding skills your child will learn.

Research shows that reading for pleasure :

- has a positive effect on children's social and emotional behaviour
- enables children to see things from different viewpoints
- creates independent, self-motivated learners
- results in people taking more exercise!

Quite apart from those benefits, it is also a great source of fun and enjoyment. As the great man himself said, *"You want weapons? We're in a LIBRARY! BOOKS – the best weapons in the world! This room's got the best arsenal we could have!"* (David Tennant as Dr Who.)

This leaflet aims to support you in helping your child to acquire a love of reading that will stay with them for life.



TOP TIPS

- ❖ **Promote reading as fun!**
- ❖ **Read to your child every day.** This is as important as your child reading to you.
- ❖ **Choose a good time to read together** so you can commit without fear of interruption.
- ❖ **Model the pleasure of reading** through sharing your own enthusiasm for books.
- ❖ **Treat books with respect:** model how to turn the pages carefully. Encourage your child to keep books in a special place.
- ❖ **Make your child's bedroom a book-rich haven**
- ❖ **Share picture books that have no words** and make up the story together.
- ❖ **Praise your child for trying hard with their reading.** Celebrate their successes but let them know it's alright to make mistakes.
- ❖ **Re-read familiar stories.** This helps children learn the patterns of language.
- ❖ **Read traditional tales.** This helps children learn the basics of storytelling.
- ❖ **Encourage your child to make up stories** and tell them to you.
- ❖ **Join your local library** and use it regularly.
- ❖ **Record books you have shared** in your child's reading record: this helps school gain a picture of the breadth of your child's reading experiences.