



*Why is reading
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One of the most effective ways to encourage children to read independently is to read aloud to them, well beyond the point at which they are capable of reading (ideally well into their teens),

The impact on being read to includes: motivation to read independently, joy, relaxation, happiness, an improved sense of well-being, motivated, pupils read more to themselves and ask to be read to. It can be a very soothing experience and can help to build the bond between child and carer,

Storytelling introduces new words, structure and language patterns that help form the building blocks for reading and writing skills,

Talking and reading helps children learn to listen and reading aloud to children encourages you and your child to talk regularly,

By reading stories that are on their interest level, but beyond their reading level, you can stretch young readers' understanding and motivate your child to improve their skills.



Have fun sharing books with these tips:

- Find a quiet place and turn off the TV or radio. This will help your child to listen without distraction.
- Talk about the book's cover and point out the title.
- Let your child hold the book and turn the pages.
- Encourage them to talk about the pictures.
- Be slow and clear when you read and don't be afraid to use sing-song or funny voices.
- Use different voices for different characters. Add in sound effects like splashing in puddles, beeping car horns or animal sounds.
- You can use props, such as puppets or a favourite cuddly toy.
- When the story is finished, you could ask them if they liked it and if they had a favourite character.
- Make a den together, like a cloth over a table, with space for both of you to share. You can make your den part of the story – it could be a monster's cave, a rocket ship, or a princess' tower.
- Talk to your child about what you did as a child. Involve the whole family – grandparents may have stories to share from when they were growing up!
- Don't read for too long- little and often is best.
- Share favourite books again and again- repetition helps children to understand and remember the language they hear.
- Remember you're not teaching your child to read. Book sharing is a wonderful way to help your child's language development.

Did you know?

Children who were read to regularly by their parents at age five performed better in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who were not helped in this way.

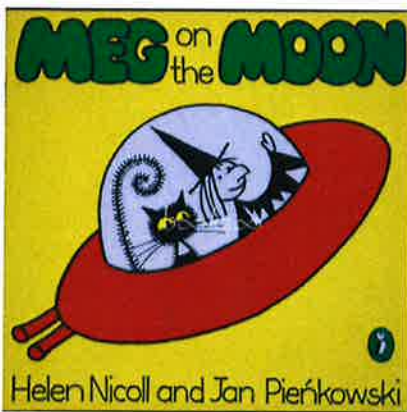
At times of distress, reading can be very calming, particularly when your voice is combined with your child's favourite book.

Useful online links to support your child with reading.

National
Literacy
Trust

Why not read and explore Meg on the Moon?

Click the link below to read the story.



<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/read-and-explore-meg-on-the-moon/>

We support

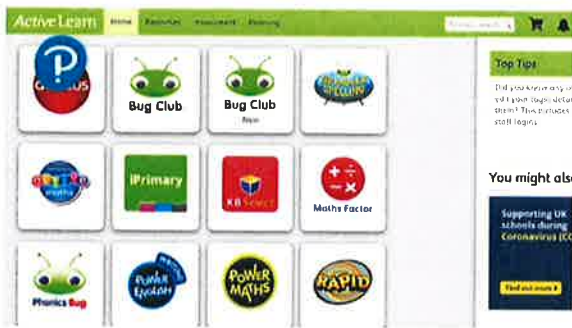
Parents and families

Parents and the home learning environment have the greatest effect on how a child develops language and literacy skills. Our site **Words for Life** gives developmental milestones, tips, fun resources and advice to help parents support their children's literacy development.

Click on the link below to discover book related activities for children ages 5-8 years old.

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/filter/?age=5-8>

Bug Club and Active Learn



Remember your child can access many reading books using this website. All they need are their login details which can be found in their reading record. Follow the link: <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>



Virtual School Library

Here you can access free reading and writing activities from your favourite children's authors from the [National Literacy Trust](https://www.thenational.academy/library). Follow the link below:

<https://www.thenational.academy/library>



The Book start Book trust offers free Bookstart packs and dual-language books. You can ask at your local library if you haven't received your Bookstart Baby pack by the time your child turns one, or the Bookstart Treasure pack before they turn five. Follow the link below for more details.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/programmes-and-campaigns/bookstart/families/what-bookstart-can-offer-you/baby-and-treasure-packs/>

Books I would like to read...





Old Lodge Lane, Purley, Surrey CR8 4DN
Email: office@beaumont.croydon.sch.uk

Tel: 020 8660 7707 Fax: 020 8763 2819
Web: www.beaumont.croydon.sch.uk

