

Children should be reading about fifteen minutes per evening. Regular reading at home will support all areas of learning at school.

How to help your child develop their reading skills in Year 5

- When your child is reading aloud to you, encourage them to maintain fluency and accuracy
- Point out when a sentence starts with a subordinate clause, e.g. As the sun rose, the man rowed his boat across the lake.
- Read stories/ novels with more complex plots and talk about them
- In non-fiction texts ask your child to summarise the information on the page into one or two sentences
- Discuss the moods and feelings of the characters by using clues in the text
- Point out similes and metaphors, e.g. he is like a ray of sunshine, he is my world
- Talk about the themes of the book and books with similar themes
- Talk about how the author presents issues and their point of view
- Talk about how the context of the story, e.g. historical setting or social/ cultural setting

Questions to ask your child when Reading

Fiction

- Which words and phrases tell you more about the characters?
- When was this book written? How does that affect the story?
- What impression do you get of the characters feelings? How do you know he/she feels like that?
- How did the character feel before/ after...?
- What does the word ... imply about how he/she feels?
- Can you find any powerful verbs? Similes? Metaphors?
- What can you tell me about the viewpoint of the author?
- Can you think of any other stories/ novels similar to this one?

Non-fiction

- How does the writer link the introduction link to the conclusion?
- How does the first sentence inform the reader?
- What is the main point of the text?
- Is this written formally or informally?

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