

## Reading with the fluent reader

Once your child has become a fluent reader, there is a lot for you both to celebrate and feel very proud about, however the work does not stop there!

It is at this stage that many parents feel uncertain about how they continue to support their child's reading development at home. This booklet will give you information about developing your child's "advanced" reading skills, which still need a lot of practice. Your child needs to develop a greater understanding of reading in more complex detail than before and thus become a more "reflective" reader.

### How can you help?

Firstly, continue to share books. Read to them and let them read to you as often as you can.

If your child is reluctant to read out loud to you, ask them to read part of the book to themselves and then discuss it with them. Ask

Why did you choose this book?

What kind of book is it?

Did you think it would be like that?

Could this story really have happened?

Were there any parts of the story you particularly liked/disliked?

What books have you read by the same author?

### Ask questions about the plot

Where is the story set?

What happened in the story?

What might happen next?

Through whose eyes is the story told?

## Find out about the characters

Who was your most/least favourite character? Why?

Who would you most like to meet from the story? Why?

If you were that character how would you have reacted?

Do you believe what the character said?

## Discuss the genre of the book

What type of story is it? - modern, animal, science fiction, historical, a mystery, humorous, cultural

## Making inferences (reading between the lines)

Once they have discussed the literal details, children need to learn to go beyond the obvious and think about the implications of what they have read.

**Also**, children learn by example - it is important for the children to see adults reading, so let them see you reading sometimes. **All the above questions can be asked about television programmes, comics, radio programmes, newspaper stories, computer games and programmes.** It is important that they are encouraged to form opinions about what they have read or seen.

## Non-fiction books

Children should be encouraged to read a mix of fiction and non-fiction books. Non-fiction books can still be shared and so much learning can come from raising questions and discovering the answers together. They can also learn skills from reading non-fiction books that they cannot learn from reading fiction.

## Skimming and Scanning

If your child is trying to find the answer to a particular question they will need to use the contents page and the index. When they find the right page they do not have to read every word in that section. They can practise the skill of skimming and scanning down the page, looking for key words to find the answer they are looking for.

**In summary, remember that reading should be**

Fun and exciting

Interesting

A time for praising achievement and sharing learning

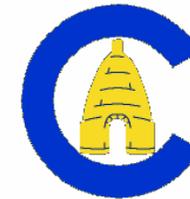
A time for encouragement

An opportunity to share books

A special time together

**Finally,** if you are concerned about your child's reading progress and how you can help, please telephone or come in and see us. We all want your child to achieve to the best of their ability.

# The Craylands School



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