

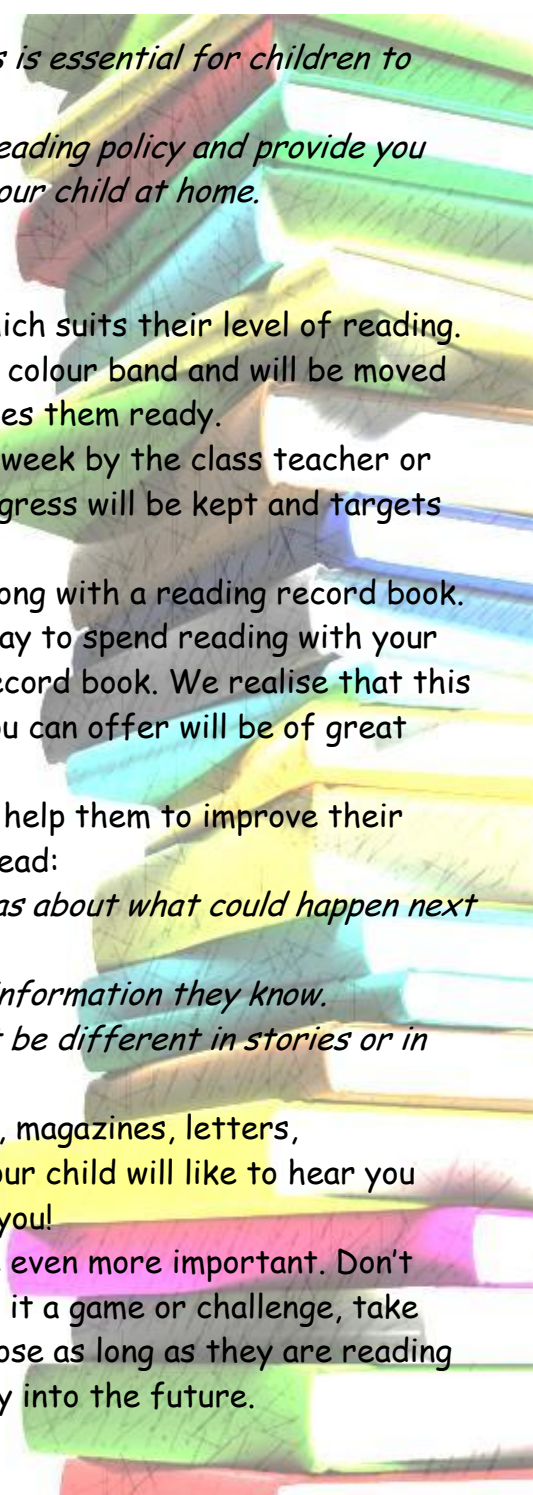
How to help your child with reading

Reading is a life skill and we want all children to leave Thorntree Primary School able to read and with a love of books.

We believe that a close partnership with parents is essential for children to benefit most from their time at Thorntree.

This information will advise you of the school's reading policy and provide you with information which will help you to support your child at home.

- ❖ Children will be have a colour-banded book which suits their level of reading. They will be able to select any text from this colour band and will be moved to a different colour when their teacher judges them ready.
- ❖ Every child will be heard read at least once a week by the class teacher or another adult in school. A record of their progress will be kept and targets discussed with the child.
- ❖ Children will bring home their reading book along with a reading record book. We ask that you try to find 5 -10 minutes a day to spend reading with your child and that you make a comment in their record book. We realise that this may not always be possible but any support you can offer will be of great benefit to your child.
- ❖ When you are reading with your child you can help them to improve their understanding by discussing what they have read:
Ask them questions about the text, their ideas about what could happen next or whether they are enjoying the book.
Encourage them to tell you what stories and information they know.
Discuss their opinions about how things might be different in stories or in the world.
- ❖ Let them see you, and join you in, reading; TV, magazines, letters, instructions, charts, signs ... and remember your child will like to hear you read to them as much as they like reading to you!
- ❖ If your child is a reluctant reader this can be even more important. Don't force them to read but read to them or make it a game or challenge, take turns. Read a comic or anything else they choose as long as they are reading and enjoying it, then it is a skill they will carry into the future.



Here are some examples of questions you could ask to extend your child's reading skills:

- + How did...happen?
- + When/where did the story take place?
- + What is the character like?
- + Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- + Explain how the author made this character seem angry/happy/sad/excited.
- + What words give you the impression that...
- + Can you invent a new title?
- + Can you predict the outcome of a chapter/episode?
- + Can you tell me what you think about ...?
- + What evidence can you find to support your opinion?
- + Could the story be improved? How?
- + Would you recommend this story? Who to?
- + What word could you use instead of ...?

