



Email: contactus@southendinfant.com

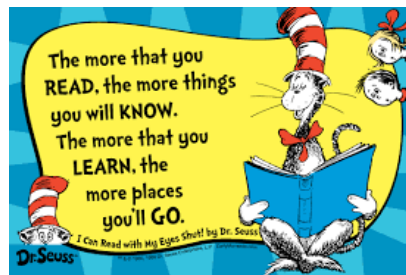
**Wymington Road
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**Head Teacher:
Mrs E Ashcroft**

**Deputy Head Teacher:
Mrs S Ireton**

Reading at South End Infant School



Dear Parents and Carers,

At South End Infant School, we believe that reading is a fundamental part of learning as it is the skill that underpins everything that is taught, and opens the door to learning right across the curriculum. Our aim is for a majority of our children to leave our school being able to read fluently and accurately. They will become confident with answering questions about a text, be able to discuss their own preferences when it comes to reading and like us, absolutely adore books!

Through our Sounds-Write (phonics) lessons, children are taught to read by learning the phonemes (sounds) that represent letters or groups of graphemes (letters). With this knowledge, the children begin to read words by blending the phonemes together. Over the coming weeks, we will be inviting parents/carers in to observe how we teach phonics at South End Infant School.

We are in the process of reorganising our book band system, so the colours may not follow in the order that you are used to. Also, please do not be alarmed if your child remains on a particular colour for a while, as there is breadth within the colours (e.g. pink circle, pink triangle and pink square). Your child will be given their own school reading book that has been carefully matched to their reading ability.

Teaching staff will aim to change the children's books twice a week. These days will vary. However, please remember that re-reading the same book throughout the week builds on the children's reading fluency, understanding and confidence.

Within our exciting curriculum, we ensure that there are many opportunities for children to apply their reading skills across all subjects. Every class has a dedicated whole class story time once a day where the children will hear a wide variety of stories, poems and information texts being read to them.

To support your child, we recommend that you listen to them read at home every day for 10-20 minutes. Once you have listened to your child read, please write a comment/draw a smiley face and sign their school reading record, so that we can celebrate their achievements/efforts at school. You can supplement your child's reading with books from home or the Library, but we ask that this is in addition to reading school books, not instead of.



Below is a link to a video of an adult reading a decodable story with a child called, Max

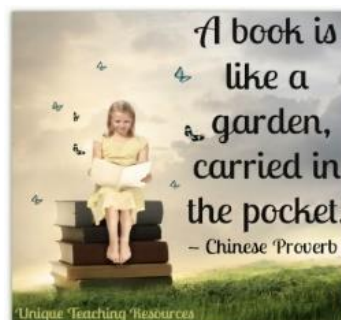
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXolNZoKWQu4>

I have also attached some lists of books that have been recommended for each year group.

We look forward to sharing your child's reading journey with you.

Mrs S.Ireton

Deputy Head/English Lead



Here are some questions that you could ask your child when reading or sharing books:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you point to the title? or What is this? (pointing to the title) • What do you think this story will be about? • What might happen in the story? • Who is in the story? • Can you have a go at sounding out that word? • How can you break down that word? • What do we need to do at a full stop? • Can you use the picture to help you with that word? • What is happening here? • What is _____ doing? • What might happen next? • How do you think the story might end? • Is _____ friendly/ mean/ nice...? • What does _____ mean? (To check understanding of a word) • Did you like this book? Why? • What was your favourite part? Why? • Which character did you like the best? Why? • Why did that character do ... (give a situation/ event from the story)? • What happened in the story? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did you want to read this book? • Do you like the book cover? What do you like about it? • What do you think this book might be about? • What happened in the beginning? • What happened next? • What happened at the end of the story? • What is the title of this book? • Does the picture on the cover give us any clues as to what the story might be about? • Does it sound like an exciting/sad/happy story? Character questions: • What do we learn about X in the beginning of the story? • What do we know about X by the end of the story? • Who are the main characters in the story? • What would you have done if you were X? • What are some of the words the author has used to describe the character? • How did X feel when... ? • What has happened so far? What do you think might happen next? • What can you see in the pictures? • Which character is your favourite? • How would you feel if that happened to you? • Did you enjoy this story? • What did you like/dislike the most? • Which was your favourite bit? Why? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you like the book cover? What do you like about it? • Have you read any other books by this author? • Is the author also the illustrator of this book? • What do you think this book might be about? • What happened in the beginning? • What happened next? • What happened at the end of the story? • At what point in the story did we realise....? • Who are the author and illustrator? • (Read the blurb on the back of the book together.) What clues does this give us? Does it sound like an exciting/sad/happy story? • What do we learn about X in the beginning of the story? • What do we know about X by the end of the story? • Who are the main characters in the story? Would you like to be any of the characters? If so, why? • How would you feel if you were X at that part of the story? • What would you have done if you were X? • What are some of the words the author has used to describe the character? • How did X feel when... ? • Does X remind you of anyone you know? If so, why? • What has happened so far? What do you think might happen next? • What can you see in the pictures? Are they helping to tell the story? • Which character is your favourite? How would you describe them? • How would you feel if that happened to you? • Did it remind you of any other stories we've read together? What were the similarities? • Did any parts of the story make you laugh? Why? • Did the story remind you of anything that has happened to you?

Here are some ideas of how you can help your child with reading:

<p>Be Seen Make sure you are seen reading. Keep books and magazines at easy reach.</p>		<p>Get Out Go to your public library regularly. Find the books you loved as a child to read together.</p>	<p>Create Use reading to inspire drawings or new stories.</p>
<p>Ask questions Ask questions about the story as you read it e.g. What is the story about? Why do you think they made that choice? Was it a good choice? Why did that happen? What do you think will happen next? What was your favourite part of the story? Why? What does that word mean?</p>	<p><i>You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.</i></p> <p><i>- Dr. Seuss</i></p>	<p>I Spy Play 'I Spy' games. Can you find words beginnings with...? Can you find a picture of a...? How many ... can you see?</p>	
<p>Make it Fun Enjoy reading together. Give characters funny voices and engage with the pictures. Make a game out of finding words that rhyme or start with the same sound.</p>	<p>Go Online Look online and in app stores for appropriate word and spelling games.</p>		
<p>Make Space Have a special place or a certain time when you read together.</p>		<p>Read EVERYTHING out LOUD! Anything that is close to hand.</p>	

