

WHY PAIRED READING?

Paired reading is a tried and tested method that you can use to help your child with reading. Research shows that paired reading can encourage children to read more independently and become more positive about reading in general



As a reading partner, you can be an excellent role model for your child. You can help them gain better understanding of what they are reading.

Paired reading can be a way of giving homework support, but you don't need to stick to the books issued by schools. Paired reading sessions can be just as effective when you read different texts like magazines, newspapers, non-fiction books and comics.

Your paired reading sessions should be fun and relaxed, and should give your child the chance to practise their reading skills without fear of 'getting it wrong'. You can explain that even you as an adult reader sometimes come across words that you are not sure of. Your child's confidence can also be boosted when you give them praise and one-to - one attention

HOW DO I DO PAIRED READING?

BEFORE READING

- It might seem obvious, but it's important that both you and your child are comfortable and sitting side by side so that you can read together
- If you are reading something new, start by talking about things like the front cover, the illustrations and what they already know about the subject matter. A bit of preparation will help your child get ready and understand what they are reading



DURING READING

- Start by reading together at the same pace. If your child is reading too slowly or quickly, encourage them to mirror your pace. This might be a little tricky at first, but once you have tried it a few times you should both start to get into a good reading rhythm.
- If your child makes a mistake, give them about four seconds to put it right. If they don't manage to correct the word, say the word for them and ask them to repeat it back to you. Then continue to read together, using praise as you read.
- Every so often, pause to ask questions, look at illustrations and discuss interesting points or words in the text. Questions should be open, using words like 'who', 'what' and 'why' - open questions help you avoid short yes or no answers



- At some point, your child might want to read alone. They can simply tell you they want to do this, or use a signal such as a tap on the arm or a knock on the table. Praise them for their effort. If when reading alone they make a mistake, give them about four seconds to put it right. If they correct the word on their own, they can continue to read alone. If they are still stuck on the word, then read the word for them and ask them to repeat it. You then go back to reading together until your child signals again that they want to read alone.



AFTER READING

- When you have finished reading, there are many fun things that you can do to give your child a chance to reflect on what they have read. Here are some things you can try:



- Make up quizzes for each other.
- Draw or make models of the characters or setting.
- Use the internet to find out about the author.
- Create a poster advertising the text you have read.
- Compare your opinions— would you recommend what you have read to others?
- Design a cartoon strip about a character

Over the page, you will see a handy diagram that you can use as a quick way of reminding yourself how to use the paired reading method

QUICK GUIDE TO PAIRED READING



READING TOGETHER

PUPIL READING ALONE

READ WITH PUPIL, BOTH OF YOU READING AT THE SAME PACE.

PUPIL GIVES AGREED SIGNAL. PRAISE FOR READING ALONE.

IF MISTAKE MADE, ALLOW FOUR SECONDS FOR PUPIL TO CORRECT.

PUPIL READS ALONE. ASK QUESTIONS AND DISCUSS FROM TIME TO TIME.

IF NOT CORRECTED, SAY WORD AND ASK PUPIL TO REPEAT CORRECTLY.

IF ERROR MADE, GIVE FOUR SECONDS TO CORRECT.

USE PRAISE.

IF NOT CORRECTED, SAY WORD AND ASK PUPIL TO REPEAT CORRECTLY.

ASK QUESTIONS AND DISCUSS WHAT YOU ARE READING.

READ TOGETHER AGAIN UNTIL PUPIL SIGNALS TO READ ALONE.

WE'VE TRIED PAIRED READING - WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?

READING ALOUD

- Reading aloud to your child as they follow can allow you to model good habits. They can listen to, for example, how you use expression to bring reading alive and see that punctuation marks affect how you read.

ECHO READING

- This is very similar to reading aloud, but here you read a section and then your child echoes or repeats what you have read. They get the chance to practice using expression and pronouncing new words etc.

SILENT READING

- Reading aloud to your child as they follow can allow you to model good habits. They can listen to, for example, how you use expression to bring reading alive and see that punctuation marks affect how you read.

WHAT SORT OF THINGS CAN WE READ?

Examples of texts that your child and you might enjoy include:

- Graphic novels, comics, cartoons
- Short stories, poems, plays or novels
- Newspapers and magazines
- Leaflets, booklets and reference material
- Appropriate websites and blogs



PARENTS AS PAIRED READING PARTNERS

