



Reading in Year 5

Children in Year 5 should now be independent readers: this includes being able to choose challenging and enjoyable reads for pleasure and also able to read lengthy texts independently. We strongly encourage children to read in their head daily and aloud at home wherever possible. We hope that children in Year 5 are able to link across texts and make recommendations confidently to peers. The language of retrieval and inference is starting to be used more and children are encouraged to find information from texts and also form educated opinions using evidence from what they have read.

Free Readers

There is no book banded system for children in Year 5 and all children are expected to be free readers, perhaps with adult support when choosing their own books and identifying their interests. They can choose books from the school library, class bookshelf or from home.

Children can track their reading in their reading record independently. It continues to be something they can write in all the time and can travel between home and school. It may be as simple as writing how many pages were read that day.

Reading out loud is a different skill to reading in your head for pleasure and we still encourage children to read aloud several times a week to parents or older siblings. Parents are still welcome to write in the reading record.

Reading aloud at school 1:1 with an adult happens far less once a child reaches Year 5 and the focus moves onto reading quietly and being able to comprehend from long pieces of text; however, whenever possible, children will have the opportunity to read aloud within a whole class reading lesson. Children are expected to read quietly for periods during the school day.

Additional support

If children come into Year 5 and are not working at the expected standard, they will be offered additional support and intervention in the form of Rapid Reading or Comprehension Express. They may also like to look at the wide selection of Barrington Stoke books in the library which are printed on a yellow background which can help some readers.



Reading in Year 5

FAQ's

How often should my child read at home?

We recommend encouraging your child to read to themselves every night and listening to them read to you at least once a week.

What if my child isn't engaging with the book they have?

Try some shared reading together. If they really aren't a fan, encourage them to brainstorm ideas for books they would like to read and challenge them to find one in the library. Our reading challenge book list might inspire them and we have other links on our website that could help.

Can my child read more than one book at once?

Yes! Your child should have a book they read at school and home. This might be the same book if they are able to take it to and from school everyday. Or they may choose to have one at school and another at home. How this works is up to them- as long as they are consistently reading the same books.

My child is finding reading really tricky. Do you offer any interventions to help them?

Yes! If a child is struggling on the book bands and we feel they could benefit from a more intensive reading approach, they may do one of three things.

- Enrol in Rapid Reading. This is a tailored 6 week intervention that levels children, offers them reading books that they can access online at home and ensures they read with adults in school at least 3x a week.
 - Enrol in Comprehension Express- this is a short intervention that helps guide children through comprehending long pieces of text.
- Increase their adult reading sessions in school. This is for children who just need more rehearsal at reading aloud to gain confidence.