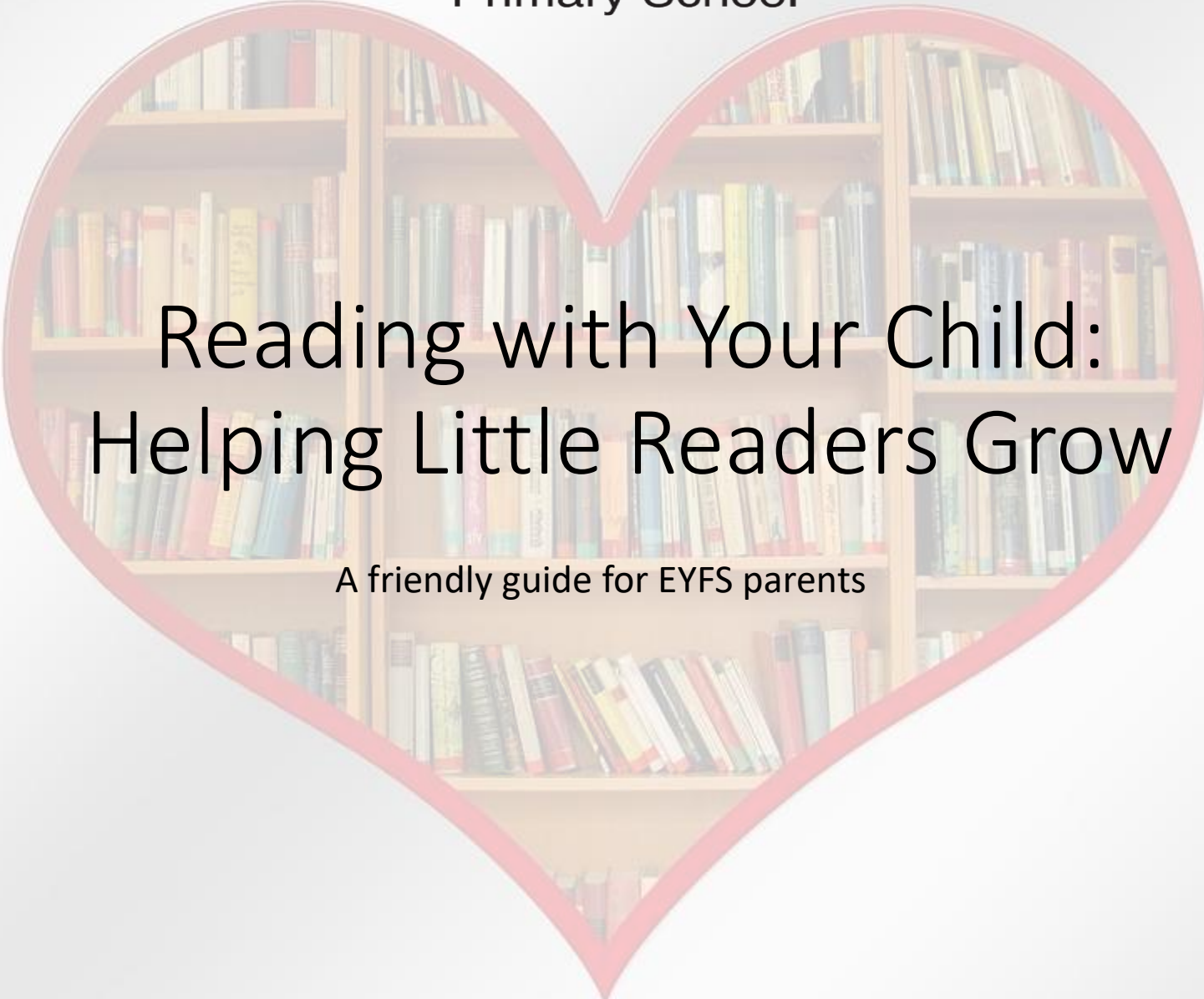




Reading with Your Child: Helping Little Readers Grow

A friendly guide for EYFS parents

Why Reading Matters

Reading is about more than learning words — it's how children make sense of the world!

- ★ Builds language, imagination, and curiosity
- ★ Boosts confidence and school readiness
- ★ Creates precious bonding time together

Did You Know?

📖 95% of parents think reading is important — but nearly 1 in 3 find it tricky!

💬 Kids who are read to daily have better language and communication skills.

💖 Children who love stories are more likely to enjoy learning later on.

20 is plenty!

Children who read for
20 minutes a day...



Will have a world of
imagination & creativity
opened to them



Will have better
general knowledge



Will be exposed to 1.8
million words a year



Will improve critical
thinking skills



Will improve their
communication skills



Will have a broad
vocabulary



Will have reduced
stress levels



Will learn how to
develop empathy



Will improve their test
results



Why Reading Together Matters

-  Builds stronger parent–child connections
-  Grows vocabulary and helps with understanding
-  Encourages empathy and imagination
-  Makes learning to read at school much easier!

<https://youtu.be/XiBS8lF48uM>

Choosing Great Books



Let your child pick — choice makes it exciting!



Look for colourful pictures and short, fun stories



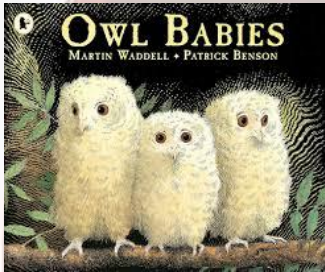
Rhymes and repetition help early readers



Mix it up — stories, fact books, poems, even comics!

Brilliant Books for Ages 4–6

📖 Our top picks:

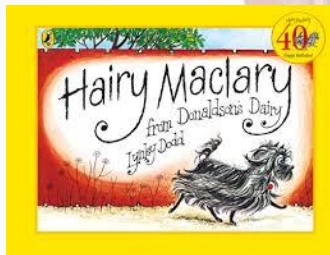
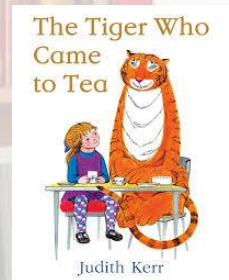


The Gruffalo – Julia Donaldson



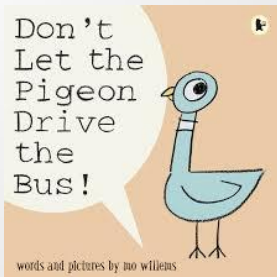
Owl Babies – Martin Waddell

The Tiger Who Came to Tea – Judith Kerr



Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy – Lynley Dodd

Supertato series – Sue Hendra & Paul Linnet



Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! – Mo Willems

Learning to Read – in school

- 🌈 we will teach the skills to read
- 🗣️ we use phonics as our main approach
- 😊 the school books – decodables – are purely for practising reading skills
- 📖 our biggest priority is fast decoding of sounds to gain fluency as quickly as possible

Learning to Read – your help

reinforce the decodable book at home

- Book talk before reading – title, predict, grapheme knowledge, link to own experiences - as much prep as needed – its not a test – want them to be successful!
- School book promotes independence – USE PHONICS!
- Encourage reading behaviours, tracking, swipe for smooth reading, self correcting, using good reading eyes, getting mouth ready for first sound, reading fluently once known, re reading for sense, looking for known words in other words.
- Follow up – questioning, focus on vocabulary.
- Ensure your child is in charge of their book when they are reading.

Learning to Read – your help

🗣️ let your child lead you with the skills they are being shown in school

😊 reread, reread, reread – fluency is key!

📖 if your child is tired, finding their book hard, chunk it up into smaller sessions – it doesn't have to be the full book every night

And still ensure there is time for reading for pleasure – share other books together and you act as the expert reader!

Reading for pleasure is **the single biggest indicator of a child's future success** – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income.*

*OECD

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023



SPONSORED BY



Changing lives through a love of books and reading

World Book Day® is a charity sponsored by National Book Tokens

Allen Fattimahan

Tips for Encouraging a Love of Books

-  Create a cosy reading corner
-  Keep books where little hands can reach them
-  Swap books regularly to keep interest fresh
-  Visit your local library — it's free and fun!
-  Celebrate small successes — every page counts!

When It's Tricky...

- 😊 If your child loses focus, keep it short and fun – little and often
- 📖 Encourage them to use their phonics knowledge and repeat back so they can hear the blend from you
- 👁️ Play games like 'fastest finger' 'find and trap'
- 💬 Echo read/choral read

We're In This Together!



We will:

- Teach reading using phonics as our prime approach
- Teach reading skills
- Send home books to share using our library
- Read daily to our children and make reading fun



You can:

- Read together every day
- Talk about stories and characters
- Share what your child loves reading!

Children with access to 25 books at home complete an average of 2 more years of school than children from homes without any books.



Kids 4-5 years old gain 6 months of reading ability by being read to 3 to 5 times per week.



Reading is a critical skill for succeeding in most school subjects.



A child spends 900 hours a year in school and 7800 hours at home.



Research shows that just 20 minutes a day spent reading with a child helps them develop critical reading skills.



Learn more:
smartreading.org/parent-resources



Key Takeaways

- ✦ Reading together builds brains and bonds
- ✦ Little and often works best
- ✦ Keep it fun — no pressure!
- ✦ Let your child lead the way

♥♥ Every story shared today plants a seed for a lifelong love of reading ♥♥