

Developing a love of reading



A life-long reading journey commences with encouraging word-reading and comprehension skills and cultivating an enjoyment of books so reading becomes a pleasurable activity. A love of reading can set children up for education success and introduce them to people, places and ideas they may not encounter in their everyday life. Research shows that reading for pleasure increases vocabulary and an '... understanding of other cultures, better general knowledge and even "a greater insight into human nature". (Clark & Rumbold, 2006)

Creating a reading strategy for your school can have a positive impact on students, teachers and the whole school community. Consider this when thinking about your school's strategy.

- ✓ Recognise that being able to read well is a key life skill for children, whatever their background.
- ✓ Every child can learn to read with the right teaching and support.
- ✓ Acknowledge that not all children will have had the opportunity to develop a love of reading at home.
- ✓ Build time for all children to read independently, read aloud and be read to during the school day.
- ✓ Involve parents to ensure reading extends into the home.

- ✓ Develop a whole-school strategy for promoting reading for pleasure and encourage everyone in your school community to advocate for reading.
- ✓ Devote time to resourcing and training staff so they are equipped to support children's enjoyment of reading.

How does Oxford support a whole-school reading strategy?

When the teaching of word-reading and reading for comprehension are combined, reading outcomes may be better for students. Oxford's reading resources support teaching word-reading and reading for comprehension by:

- addressing key issues including phonics, comprehension, developing talk, reading for pleasure, early reading intervention and writing
- encouraging reluctant readers (especially boys) into reading and providing resources for children of all abilities
- helping teachers to assess children's reading levels to plan steps to develop reading skills and monitor progress
- including age-appropriate content approved by educational experts and being structured to build children's word-reading comprehension confidence and skills.



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