



Home Reading Questions Often Asked

1. Why doesn't my child have a new book every night?

The teacher may use a book over several days to teach reading strategies and to build critical thinking skills. On the nights they don't have a new book they will be bringing home a book/books from their browsing box or poetry books. Reading familiar books allows children to become confident at reading and improves their fluency. (Fluency means 'reading sounds like talking' – not robotic.)

2. Why is my child's reading book easy?

By the time your child is reading their book to you at home, they will have already read their book with the teacher and their group in class so it should be easier and the reading should sound like talking. If you notice your child struggling with their reading at home, try reading a page each. If this continues to be a pattern then please write this in the Home Reading book or discuss it with the teacher.

3. Why does my child bring home the same book from their browsing box?

Your child selects their own browsing book to share with you at home. They often choose the same book because they feel confident reading that book. As their confidence grows they will select other books to bring home. Your job as the parent is to be the cheerleader by offering praise and encouragement.

Reading mileage by reading familiar books is good practise as research shows good readers read more words than those children who find learning to read difficult.

4. My child doesn't want to read at home, what can I do to help them?

Sometimes by changing the time of day you ask your child to read may solve this problem. If they are tired and hungry after school, try reading first thing in the morning or at bedtime. There are occasions when it's better just to read the book to them. We want reading to be a positive and enjoyable experience for both you and your child.

A comment in the Home Reading book will let the teacher know this is a problem and we can encourage your child to read to you at home as well.

5. My child is a great reader, do I need to listen to them read every night?

You don't always need to listen to your child read out loud. Try these ideas:

- Ask them to retell the story in their own words
- Ask what the problem was in the story, and how it was solved
- Let them share what they learnt in their non-fiction book
- Let them choose their favourite page to read to you
- Engage them in discussion to encourage a deeper understanding and critical thinking about the book.

**Make reading a fun and
rewarding time together!**

