



Reading Skills

Reading at home is a vital part of children's growth as fluent and skilled readers. The reading videos feature children exploring a text of their choice, linked to six reading skills that are taught in school:

Retrieval (Retrieval Rex) – using the text to retrieve facts and key details

Start by asking your child to retrieve from a shorter section of text e.g. a sentence or paragraph. Then extend to a page or even a chapter; this will also enable them to practise their 'skim' reading skills to locate specific information.

Inference (Inference Iggy) – look for clues in a text about how someone is feeling or why something is happening

Ask your child to describe a character from the book and then find evidence to support their opinion e.g. something the characters says or does.

Predicting (Predicting Pip) – work out what might happen next from clues in the text or from knowledge of books

Spend time discussing the cover of the book. Are there any clues here that might help you predict the plot of the story? Or can you make any links with other books you have read?

Author Intent – how the author has used words/phrases to add meaning and effect to the text

Choose specific moments of drama or suspense and discuss how the author has created these e.g. by choosing specific words or phrases or by using a particular sentence structure.

Vocabulary (Victor Vocabulary) – exploring new or interesting words in the text to grow personal vocabulary and build awareness of new words

Ask your child to choose favourite words or phrases. Why do they like them? Could they use them in conversation or in their writing? Are there any words that are new/unfamiliar to them? What do they think they mean?

Summarising (Summarising Sheba) – giving a summary of the main points of a section/chapter/book

Ask your child to recap the story they are reading. Encourage them to give detail and use sequencing language e.g. time connectives. Their summary should allow you to be clear on the key events of the story.