

### Read Together Regularly

- ✓ Set aside a specific time each day to read Gaelic books together. Consistency helps build language confidence.
- ✓ Choose Gaelic stories that are engaging and age-appropriate and read aloud to your child to model pronunciation and intonation.
- ✓ Take turns reading aloud. If your child is still developing confidence, start with them reading just a few words or sentences and gradually increase as they feel more comfortable.

### Use Bilingual Resources

- ✓ Have a mix of Gaelic and bilingual books at home. Bilingual texts can help children make connections between Gaelic and their primary language, making the content more understandable.
- ✓ Look for online Gaelic resources that offer translations or explanations in English to support learning, especially for unfamiliar vocabulary.

### Label Items Around the Home in Gaelic

- ✓ Label common items like “doras” (door), “cathair” (chair), or “uinneag” (window) around the house in Gaelic to reinforce vocabulary and help your child recognize Gaelic words in daily life.
- ✓ Encourage your child to use these words when pointing to or talking

about these items to reinforce learning.

### Encourage Storytelling in Gaelic

- ✓ Ask your child to tell you a story in Gaelic, even if it’s short and simple. Prompt with questions like “Dè thachair an ath rud?” (“What happened next?”) to keep them engaged.
- ✓ Retelling familiar stories in Gaelic can also be helpful, as it builds both comprehension and vocabulary.



### Practice Phonics and Word Recognition

- ✓ Work on basic Gaelic phonics (like the sounds of letters and combinations) to improve their reading fluency. For example, help them learn the sounds for “bh,” “dh,” and “gh.”
- ✓ Use flashcards or apps to reinforce common Gaelic words or sight words that appear frequently in reading materials.

### Use Gaelic Audiobooks and Songs

- ✓ Gaelic audiobooks, songs, and even podcasts can help reinforce pronunciation, rhythm, and intonation, as well as expose them to a broader vocabulary.
- ✓ Listening to stories or music in Gaelic while following along with the written text can improve listening skills and comprehension.

### Celebrate Small Wins

- ✓ Praise your child’s effort and progress, no matter how small, to build their confidence and enjoyment in learning Gaelic.
- ✓ Set achievable reading goals together, like reading a short paragraph or understanding a new word each day and celebrate their successes.



## Gaelic Reading websites

- ✓ We have identified some websites that you might find useful in our 'parent zone' section under 'homework help' or you can try the websites below.

[www.mygaelic.com](http://www.mygaelic.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/alba](http://www.bbc.co.uk/alba)

[www.gaelicforparents.com](http://www.gaelicforparents.com)

[www.gaidhlig-nan-og.scot](http://www.gaidhlig-nan-og.scot)

[www.playtalkread.org](http://www.playtalkread.org)

[www.familyeducation.com](http://www.familyeducation.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/alba/foghlam/beag air bheag](http://www.bbc.co.uk/alba/foghlam/beag_air_bheag)

[www.go-gaelic.com](http://www.go-gaelic.com)

[www.orain-na-cloinne-bige.e-storas.com](http://www.orain-na-cloinne-bige.e-storas.com)

[www.sgeulachdantradaisteannta.com](http://www.sgeulachdantradaisteannta.com)

## Use Gaelic in Everyday Conversations

- ✓ If possible, incorporate simple Gaelic words and phrases into everyday conversations, even if you are still learning the language yourself. This makes the language feel more relevant to them.
- ✓ For instance, use Gaelic phrases for greetings, asking for food, or saying goodnight, which can build their comfort with the language in casual settings.

## Stay Patient and Make it Enjoyable

- ✓ Gaelic reading can be challenging for young learners, especially if they are more familiar with English. Encourage curiosity and enjoyment rather than focusing on perfection.



- ✓ Share in the experience by reading your own Gaelic books or studying the language alongside them, showing that learning Gaelic is valuable and enjoyable at any age.

Building reading skills in Gaelic at home is a process, but with consistent, enjoyable practice, your child's confidence and ability will grow. Gaidhlig agad fhèin, latha às deidh làtha (you've got this, day by day)!

## A guide to supporting you child with reading in Gaelic at home

