

## How can I support my child in developing their Shared Reading Skills at home?

Read novels/ newspaper/magazines/leaflets etc as often as you can with your child at home. Here are some suggestions which you could try when reading with your child:

1. When introducing a piece of literature, discuss the title, cover, and author/illustrator. Ask your child to make predictions about what they think the story etc might be about.
2. Take it in turns to read the story aloud using expression and different tones of voice. Stop from time to time to discuss what is happening in the story and ask your child again to predict what might happen next in the story.
3. Talk about the characters. Discuss how the character might be feeling and why? What you like/dislike about a certain character etc.
4. Take time to make comments/react to events in the book at the end of your reading session. Ask questions about the story and relate the story to any similar experiences you or your child may have had. Ask the children to retell the story in their own words.
5. Re-read the story and/or allow time for the child to then read independently.



ABERUTHVEN PRIMARY  
SCHOOL



## READING

Information for Parents & Guardians



## What is Shared Reading?

Shared reading is an instructional approach to reading in which the teacher explicitly models strategies and reading skills. Pupils would then participate in activities to develop these skills through whole class, paired or individual tasks.

## Why use Shared Reading?

Through Shared Reading, pupils have an opportunity to develop both their reading skills and increase their level confidence in both reading and discussing their understanding of information in their novel.

Shared Reading provides a safe learning environment where students learn through the support of their teachers and peers.

## What is Guided Reading?

Pupils work in small groups of pupils during these sessions. When introducing a new book to the pupils, the Teacher will prepare the children by firstly discussing the title, talk about the type of text, look

at the pictures on the front and back cover and discuss any previous knowledge they have on the subject area. If necessary, they would also locate and preview difficult new words and unfamiliar concepts or names.


Each Guided reading session can be split into four main parts:

**Strategy Check:** At the beginning of each Guided reading session, children will be introduced to or be asked to review a different reading strategy and will be taught or reminded how to use this when reading.

**Reading:** Children will be asked to both read aloud in front of their group and read on their own at various points during a Guided Reading session. Children will be given pointers about their reading style eg. pace, volume, expression used etc.

**Returning to the Text:** The reading group will discuss the text they have read to check each child's understands. They may also be asked to find evidence in the book to support their answer.





**Responding to the Text:** Pupils are encouraged to discuss the text, expressing their own ideas and opinions.

### **What is Independent Reading?**

Independent reading gives pupils the opportunity to read and access a further, separate novel on their own or with the support of a Parent/Guardian. At their own pace, they should work their way through any novel given for homework, practicing the skills and strategies they have been taught during Guided and Shared reading sessions to further develop their reading abilities.

### **Why use Independent Reading?**

Pupils should be given the time and opportunity to practise and build on their own reading skills at a pace suitable to them. They should be given access to a range of books and genres to develop an understanding of the variety of books on offer to them.

They should access books for enjoyment as well as for educational benefit and do so in a comfortable and relaxed learning environment which promotes reading, both at home and in school.

### **How does it all link to Curriculum for Excellence?**

Within Curriculum for Excellence, literacy is defined as:  
*'the set of skills which allows an individual to engage fully in society and in learning, through the different forms of language, and the range of texts.'*

In order to successfully achieve Curriculum for Excellence outcomes and experiences for Literacy pupils must be able to:

- Understand** all information within a text and share their understanding.
- Analyse** information from the text and **Evaluate** the impact it may have on them, the characters or on the meaning of the story.
- Find information** within a text and use this information as evidence to support their own ideas and understanding.

**Find out more about developing literacy across learning at**

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/literacy\\_across\\_learning\\_principles\\_practice](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/literacy_across_learning_principles_practice)

