



**Respect Resilience  
High expectations**

## **Encouraging your child to read**

1. Read to your child (as well as your child reading to you). You are never too old to listen to a story - choose a book together, read each night and talk about the book. Ask your child what their favourite parts are, what they think will happen next or whether they have learnt any new words.
2. Take it in turns. If your child doesn't like reading for a long time, make a deal: read a page each (or even a paragraph each).
3. Join the library. We can register them in school – we just need your permission. Most classes will be visiting the library regularly – why not come along and join us?
4. Listen to audio books – you can borrow these from the library. All you need is a CD player (or games console or PC) and your child will be able to listen to the story. They could listen with you or use a set of headphones. Ask them to tell you what the story is about.
5. Read anything! It's important to read high-quality story books but your child will learn from reading lots of different types of writing: comics, magazines, newspapers, text books, recipe books or annuals.

6. Show them you like reading – tell them what you are reading and talk about what your favourite books were when you were at school. When your child is reading independently, still ask them about what they are reading. If they know you are interested they will be more enthusiastic!
7. Turn off the TV: try not to have too many distractions while your child is reading or while you are reading to your child. This will help them to concentrate on the book – and help them to enjoy it!
8. Have books at home. Always try to have different books for your child to read or to ‘dip’ in and out of. Your child can borrow books from Roehampton Library and we hope to have our library in school. We’ll also be having another book swap soon!
9. Ask for help: if you find it hard to find time to read with your child. Is there another family member they could read with? Or an older brother or sister?
10. And if this doesn’t work...try bribery! Set a challenge – it could be to read every night for ten minutes or to finish one book in a week or to read ten books by the end of each term. If they meet the challenge, reward them with a prize.

If you have any questions about reading or would like to discuss what you can do to help your child read, please don’t hesitate to talk to your child’s class teacher.

Happy reading!