



Small School. Big Hearts. Big Ambitions.

Supporting children with reading – AR books

Here is a list of suggestions to help you support a child when listening to them read an Accelerated Reader book.

Before they read to you:

- Ask them who is the author? Is there an illustrator too?
- Is the book fiction or non-fiction? How do they know?
- Suggest they read you the blurb on the back.
- Ask them why they chose the book?

As they read:

- Suggest they use their phonics to help them decode (sound out) a word they are stuck on. If you are not sure, simply read the word for them.
- If it isn't decodable, suggest it may be a 'tricky word' and help them read it, or tell them if need be.
- Help them to pay attention to punctuation as they read. A pause for a comma, a slightly longer pause for a full stop.
- Draw their attention to punctuation marks such as question marks, exclamation marks and speech marks.
- From time to time, help them re-read a sentence or two whilst really focussing on reading with prosody (rhythm, stress and intonation).
- Ask them what some of the trickier vocabulary means. If they are not sure, either tell them or maybe use a dictionary to show them how to check.
- Ask them about what a character might be feeling at a given time and ask them how they know that (eg by the way they walk, so you infer their feelings)
- Ask them to make a prediction about what might happen next.
- Ask them if they would recommend the book who they might they recommend it to.

