



**Reading At Home**  
**A Booklet For Parents**  
**KS2**

**We LOVE reading at Greenslade and our school is full of lots of wonderful books for everyone to enjoy!**

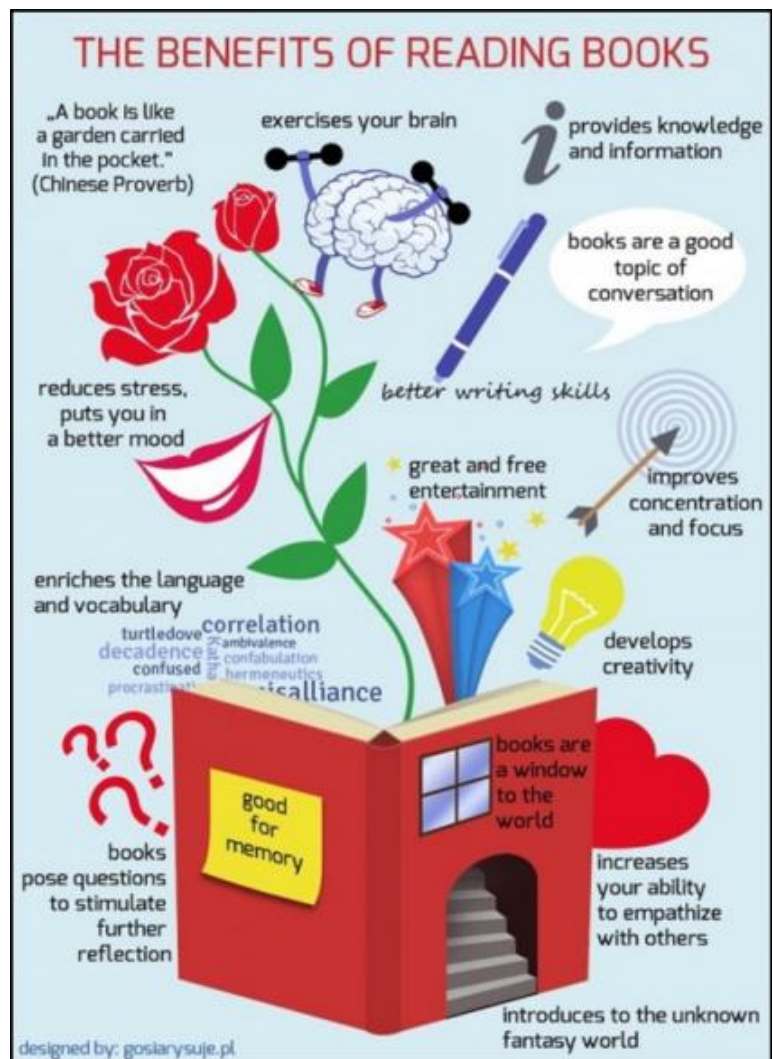
The ability to read fluently and with understanding is the most fundamental skill that children will learn. It is our aim to enable children to become confident, successful readers and to gain a love of reading a wide range of literature. Being unable to read effectively puts children at a significant disadvantage - it affects their academic achievement, wellbeing and success in later life.

At Greenslade Primary School, all pupils are encouraged to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to establish an appreciation and love of reading, to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live, and to gain knowledge across the curriculum. We believe that reading feeds pupils' imagination and brings joy and wonder to curious minds.

Throughout Key Stage 2, children learn to read through explicit instruction from their teacher through regular small group or whole class guided reading sessions. In these sessions, they will develop their fluency and their ability to understand the text. They will develop the main reading skills: vocabulary, inferring, predicting, explaining, retrieving and summarising.

Teachers also read regularly to the children so that they get to know and love all sorts of stories and tales, poetry and information texts. This helps to extend children's vocabulary and comprehension and provides access to texts that may prove too challenging for some.

Even though your child may now be a more fluent reader, it is important to encourage them to read regularly at home. It is even better if you can read *with* your child as this they will benefit from having discussions with you about what they are reading. We expect children in KS2 to practise reading at home every day. The more time a child spends reading, the more words they are exposed to and the greater their vocabulary becomes.



## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

<b>Student "A"</b> reads <b>20 minutes</b> each day 3600 minutes in a school year	<b>Student "B"</b> reads <b>5 minutes</b> each day 900 minutes in a school year	<b>Student "C"</b> reads <b>1 minute</b> each day 180 minutes in a school year
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**1,800,000 words**



90<sup>th</sup> percentile

**282,000 words**



50<sup>th</sup> percentile

**8,000 words**



10<sup>th</sup> percentile

*(Nagy and Herman 1987)*

By continuing to actively share in your child's reading you are giving it status and importance.

We ask children in KS2 to record comments about their reading experiences in their reading journals as part of their on-going homework. Comments could include a few sentences to describe their favourite part in the story, a predication about what might happen next, a comment about the characters or the setting or 3 facts they have learnt from a non-fiction text. If they are not particularly enjoying the story, they could write a comment about why.

Date	Book title and page number	Comments
17/10	Shackleton's Journey pgs 1-18	I liked the way the author uses descriptive language to describe Antarctica and the way in which the ship was trapped.

### **How can you help your child with their reading?**

- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 15 – 20 minutes four times a week is much better than longer sessions once a week.
- Provide a quiet and comfortable place where your child can enjoy books.
- Talk about the book your child is reading (see ideas for questions below)
- Encourage your child to read a range of texts such as newspapers, comics, poetry and non-fiction.
- Let your children see you reading and enjoying reading.
- Encourage your child to join the library or take them to a book shop.
- Encourage your child to read a series of books from a favourite author or books on topics of interest.

### **What questions could you ask your child?**

- (Before starting a new book) What do you think this book is going to be about?
- (Part way through) What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this?
- What does the word \_\_\_ mean? Why is this a good word to use?
- Find a word/phrase which suggests that....
- How does this word/description make you feel?
- How do you think the character feels? Why?
- Why did the character behave in that way?
- Do you agree with how the character behaved? Why?
- What has just happened? Where is this happening?
- Describe the character based on what you have read.
- What would you ask the character?
- Why does the text look like this? Why has it been organised in this way?
- What facts have you learnt? (non-fiction)
- Give one example of how...
- How did this story make you feel?
- What do you like/dislike about the style of the writing?
- Can you summarise what this paragraph/chapter is about?

**You can find lists of recommended books for different year groups on our school website.**

**Thank you for your support and have fun reading!**

