



Ark Blacklands Primary Academy Home Learning



Compulsory home learning: reading

All children will be expected to read their book and also be read to (see timetable for more detail). The more children practise reading, the easier and more enjoyable it becomes. There is not enough time during the school day for children to practise as often as they need to – so doing this at home is vital. Children also need to learn to persevere in reading longer texts as their reading skills develop. If children do not practise reading at home, they are very likely to fall behind and will then struggle. This is as true of children in years 5 and 6 as it is of children in year 1.

We expect parents to record daily reading in their child's reading record in KS1 and for a child to begin to record their own reading as they move into KS2 and become more independent. Reading records should be brought into school every day by all children.

Here are some points for discussion to have with your child about their reading book:

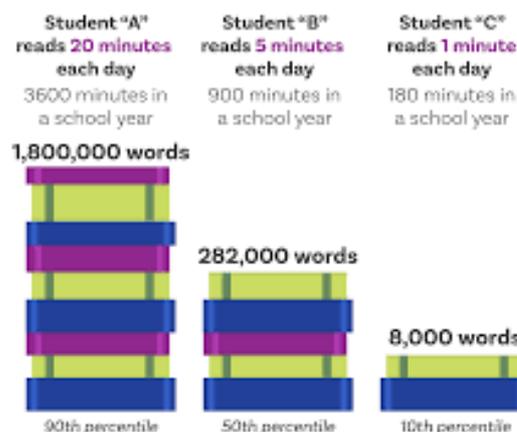
Can you summarise the story so far?

- Why do you think that the author chose that word?
- What effect does this sentence have on the reader?
- Does this remind you of any other books you have read?

Compulsory home learning: other

Children must spend a few minutes each day revising their number facts (number bonds and times tables) and spellings. Ten minutes every day is much more effective than an hour once a week. The more children practise these, the easier they will be to remember. The quicker they can remember them automatically, the more their brain has space to work on other, higher level things. Parents will be provided details of the spelling and number focus each term on the termly year group curriculum leaflet.

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



	Reading	Other
Early Years	10 minutes daily: Adult sharing a library or other book/ bedtime story – recorded 5x a week in reading log	5 minutes daily on the following: Initial sounds High frequency words Counting to 20
KS1	15 minutes daily: Reading aloud to an adult or sibling a library/other book – recorded 5x a week in reading log	10 minutes daily on the following: Spellings Number facts – focus shared termly
KS2	20 – 30 minutes daily Reading library/other book – recorded 5x a week in reading log	10 minutes daily on the following: Spellings Times Tables and related facts – focus shared termly

Enrichment Activities and Projects

We also give children a range of optional enrichment projects and suggested activities that can be completed at home. These activities and projects provide families an element of choice; learning that gives options. However, these activities also teach children the importance of self-motivation and determination in order to encounter success. Parents and children can work in partnership to choose how many – and which – projects or activities they choose to work on together. These will then be shared and celebrated at school.

How can parents support Home Learning?

- **Make Time:** your child will benefit from you taking an interest in what they are doing.
- **Experiences:** Try and link life and leisure experience to your child's schoolwork e.g. visits to the park, museum or days out.
- **Talk:** Make time to ask your child about what they are studying and what they have learned. Another great way to show you are interested is to attend school activities such as parents' evenings and sport events.