



FINDING READING MATERIALS FOR YOUR CHILD

DID YOU KNOW?

The most effective way to support students' reading development is to help them enjoy reading.

However, if your child struggles with reading, they may find it difficult to access certain texts that would otherwise interest them and which explore issues relevant to their age. Emerging research suggests that audiobooks may be helpful for increasing interest in reading, as well as modelling the fluency of good reading.

Research by the National Literacy Trust found that students who experienced an increased enjoyment in reading during Covid-19 lockdowns cited an increase in choice of reading material as one of the reasons. Students highlighted the positive impact of being able to access a variety of good-quality texts on their enjoyment of reading, but also the amount they read too. However, some missed having the guidance of hearing others read and getting suggestions for different books.

It's clear, therefore, that we all need to be able to help guide students towards finding a range of reading material they could be interested in.



PiXL Reading



WHERE CAN WE ACCESS GOOD-QUALITY READING MATERIAL THEY'LL ENJOY?

- School or community libraries not only offer free access to books, but they often also have audio books and e-books that your child could borrow.
- Book shops provide a chance for your child to browse and purchase books with support from the staff, if they wish. Some book shops will have review cards dotted around with some of their top-picks too.
- Audio books can be purchased from devices, including phones, as well as on CDs or borrowed from a library.



HOW DO WE CHOOSE WHAT TO READ?

- Firstly, bear in mind that it doesn't matter what they read: helping them to enjoy reading and find material they want to read is the important thing. This might mean they find a fiction novel, but it also might mean that they find a range of online articles or websites they enjoy exploring. They may find enjoy reading magazines or graphic novels.
- Think about topics they are interested in. You could look at fiction books related to the topic, or encourage them to read online articles about it.
- If they have liked a book before, encourage them to read another text by the same author.
- You and your child could spend some time browsing library or book shop shelves, speaking to the staff and reading the back of the books (blurbs) to help decide what to take home.
- Be mindful about your child's reading level so that they can access the vocabulary the text contains. You may wish to discuss this with your child's teacher or hear them read, in a supportive way, before you start choosing texts. For some students, books from Barrington Stoke publishers or the OUP Super Readable Rollercoasters may be worth exploring.
- Ask your child's school to send you the PiXL Half-termly Reading Newsletters to get ideas for texts your child may find interesting.