

Reading Bands

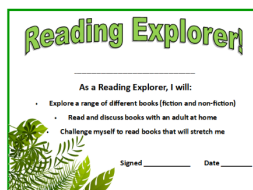
Children's reading skills are assessed; both decoding and comprehension. Children are assigned a book band level based on their test results as well as ongoing assessment by the teachers.

This ensures they are reading the correct level of book to enable them to build and consolidate their reading skills. Children are assessed regularly, moving up through the levels as appropriate. Progress through the reading bands is not a race; it is a journey. It is important to see it as such. All children progress at different rates with maximum learning and enjoyment being achieved when a child reads at their correct level.

Once a child has travelled through the book bands, they will become 'Reading Explorers'. These children aim to:

- ⇒ Explore a range of different books (fiction and non-fiction).
- ⇒ Read and discuss books with an adult at home.
- ⇒ Challenge themselves to read books that stretch them.

Children sign, and then take home, a Reading Certificate when they become a Reading Explorer.



Our School Library

Whilst also having access to a range of age-appropriate books in their classroom book corners to choose from, children are encouraged to visit the library. It contains a range of books, both factual and fiction.

Our Year 6 librarians are always on hand and happy to help children find a good book for children to read.

Children are expected to bring their reading books to school every day as quiet, independent reading is part of the daily classroom routine.

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Why not have a chat with your child about reading and the books they have enjoyed?

Maybe they could use the space below to list books they have enjoyed or they could draw a picture of a favourite character or favourite scene:



**~ Our Shared
Approach to Reading ~**

**A guide for parents and
carers at Busbridge CE
Junior School**

Cherish  *Challenge*

Reading for Primary School Children

Research has shown that proficiency in reading plays a vital role in children's academic progress.

Reading provides enjoyment and knowledge whilst also supporting children in their writing and acquisition of vocabulary across all areas of the school curriculum.

Busbridge C of E Junior School aims to develop literate children who:

- **Love reading** and have an appreciation of the importance and value of reading for pleasure.
- **Read with confidence**, fluency and understanding, using a range of independent strategies to self-monitor and correct.
- Have a deep and true **understanding** of what they read.
- Understand **phonics** and use them to read accurately.
- Have an interest in a **wide range of texts**, reading for enjoyment and information

Encouragement and role-modelling at home is a key part of our aim to create a love of reading. Working closely with parents and carers to do this is vital.

Reading Skills

The skills of reading can be broken down into seven different strands. The first is fluency which involves the ability to read with speed, accuracy and appropriate expression.

The remaining six strands can be separated into **VIPERS**:

Vocabulary – word meaning and understanding of language used in context.

Inference – making inferences from the text. Explaining and justifying, using evidence from the text.

Predict – predicting what may happen from the details both stated and implied.

Explain – identify and explain how information or narrative content is related and contributes to the meaning of the text.

Retrieval – retrieve and record key information and details from the text.

Sequence and Summarise – putting events in order, knowing what happens before or after an event. Summarise the main ideas from the text.

We use the VIPERS model as part of our reading strategy at BJS.

VIPERS Reading Lessons

Once a week, each class has a VIPERS reading lesson that focuses on developing the children's reading skills. Children read a range of texts and acquire the skills through explicit teaching, questioning and reading activities. The children work as a whole class, in groups, with partners and individually to provide challenge and support at their level. Lessons may focus on one specific skill or cover a range depending on the needs of the children. All skills will be regularly covered within the year.

Home Reading

Children are encouraged to read with a parent or carer every day and record this at least once a week in their Reading Record. During this reading time, children should be heard reading aloud followed by some discussion to ensure that the child has understood what they have read. Adults can use the VIPERS Question Stem Bookmark to build this discussion and ensure that they are focusing on different reading skills to help their child develop. This time is often very important to the child and lets adults and children celebrate reading together. Enjoy!

