









Make links with your local bookshop and arrange time for children to visit or your local bookseller to come to you.

### **Million Minute Challenge**

Get classes competing against each other by totting up the minutes they spend Reading for Pleasure. Have half-termly counts and amazing prizes for the class who's first to reach a million minutes. By counting minutes rather than books, it keeps the competition fair between year groups.

### **Next Time I'm Reading...**

As adults, we're always planning what we're going to read next. Children need to practise this skill – you could have an interactive display in your Reading area or include a section in children's Reading journals where they can list books they want to read.

### **Online**

Children spend so much time online on various devices, so it makes sense to 'tap' into this with giving them chances to read online. Use e-readers, e-books etc. whenever you can. Your local library may also have e-book access online – make sure to check it out!

### **Outdoors**

Create an engaging Reading area outdoors in the playground. You could even paint your own book bench or create a Reading trail.

### **Pupil Voice**

Hold regular pupil voice to gain insight into children's attitudes to Reading. There are example surveys for EYFS, KS1 and KS2 in this pack. Make sure to collate the results and put actions in place.

### **Quiz**

Have competitive quizzes each half term about class texts. Pit classes against each other to win Reading medals or even a trophy.

### **Reading Ambassadors**

Have a school Reading council of ambassadors who are involved in decisions about policies, resources and events.

### **Reading Champions**

Use class champions to promote Reading within their class, monitor the reading area and choose focus texts.

### **Reading Mentors**

Run a peer Reading system with targeted children (e.g. Year 5 children with Year 3 children). By giving children a specific Reading mentor and providing the mentor with training and question prompts, children can access further Reading in a fun and expected way. The One Education Reading Award has lots of resources to help you to set a system up and running.

### **Reading Review Magazine**

Why not run a termly child-led Reading Review magazine where children can write about their favourite books, their memorable reading experiences etc? Print one for every child to take home.

### **Reading Role Models**

Turn everyone at school into a Reading Role Model. Take photos of all staff, children, governors and parents reading their favourite book and ask them why they recommend it. Display these in the communal environment.

### **Recommended Reads for Each Year Group**

Make sure to have a bank of recommended reads for each year group. One Education's recommended book lists are included in this pack but by all means expand them to fit your pupils' needs and likes.

### **Relax and Read**

Hold a weekly 'Relax and Read' for parents and children in EYFS. Parents and carers can come into the classroom and share books with their children.

### **Request Boxes**

Have request boxes dotted around school for children to place text requests. Reading Leaders could gather the suggestions each month and have a small budget to replenish the school library using children's requests. You could also have a staff version!

### **Reward Readers in the Starbooks Café**

Reward children's good reading habits with Golden Tickets that the children can spend in the Starbooks Café for a treat.

### **Story-time Sessions**

Hold a weekly story-time session at lunchtime, where children can choose to spend 15 minutes inside listening to a book being read aloud.

### **Swap**

Have a book swap box or event where children, staff and parents can bring a book and swap it for free.

### **Switch Off and Read (SOAR)**

Hold a SOAR month where everyone is encouraged to switch off devices and read instead. You could even get the local community involved.

### **Text-based Curriculum**

Immersing children in texts is key to creating lifelong Readers. Why not consider moving to a text-based approach for all English lessons, where all learning and outcomes come from a central text or group of texts. One teaching sequence is One Education's 'P.I.C.C. a Text' approach. Find out more here: <https://www.oneeducation.co.uk/one-editorial/literacy/text-based-literacy-approach/> Two P.I.C.C. a Text plans are included in this teachers pack for you to try.

### **Theme Days**

Using your class text as a stimulus, have a book themed day each half term, e.g. if you're reading How to Train Your Dragon, have a day of Viking-themed learning activities.

### **Un-book Group**

Gather a group together to share texts other than books, e.g. newspapers, magazines, blogs. You could bring along a text you disagree with to debate about or even have a different theme each time, e.g. superheroes. Children can pick and choose which dates they attend according to their preferences.

### **Vote for Class Text**



Try to give pupils the chance to choose your class text where possible (both for use in English lessons and as class stories). Give children two or three choices and let them vote for their favourite.

### **Whole-school Recommendation System**

Set up a peer-to-peer recommendation system across school. This could be in the form of bookmarks that children insert into school library books, bookplates or even using blogs online. Reading recommendations from their peers is a fantastic way to engage children in Reading.

### **You Need to Read Too**

Your pupils must see you read too. If they have DEAR or SOAR time, so must you! Allow children to ask you questions about what you're reading, what you're going to read next and why.

### **X-Ray**

Don't forget that Reading is the most cross-curricular subject possible! Look for additional opportunities for Reading in Science and other subjects. Can children infer from an x-ray? How about retrieving information from a map? What about using similar vocabulary to choose probable translations in MFL?

### **Zoo**

For EYFS/KS1 children, find out their favourite animals and create a book zoo, with each area of books themed around a particular animal.

## Important Dates

There are lots of amazing book-themed days you can celebrate every year. Here are a small selection:

### January

- Costa Book Award (winners announced) [www.costabookawards.com](http://www.costabookawards.com)

### February

- National Storytelling Week (first full week) [www.sfs.org.uk](http://www.sfs.org.uk)

### March

- World Book Day (first Thursday of month) [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)
- World Storytelling Day (spring equinox)

### April

- International Children's Book Day (2 April) [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org)

### May

- National Share a Story Month [www.fcbg.org.uk](http://www.fcbg.org.uk)

### June

- Volunteers Week (usually the first full week beginning with a Friday)  
[www.volunteersweek.org.uk](http://www.volunteersweek.org.uk)

### July / August

- National Summer Reading Challenge (throughout the school summer holidays) [www.readingagency.org.uk](http://www.readingagency.org.uk)
- CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards (winners announced) [www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk](http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk)

### September

- International Literacy Day (8 September)  
<http://portal.unesco.org/education/en>
- Roald Dahl Day (13 September) [www.roalddahlday.info](http://www.roalddahlday.info)
- European Day of Languages (26 September)  
[www.scilt.stir.ac.uk/promoting/edl.php](http://www.scilt.stir.ac.uk/promoting/edl.php)
- Early Years Book Awards (29 September)  
[www.booktrust.org.uk/prizes/eya/index.html](http://www.booktrust.org.uk/prizes/eya/index.html)

### October

- National Children's Book Week (first full week of the month)  
[www.booktrustchildrensbooks.org.uk](http://www.booktrustchildrensbooks.org.uk)
- National Schools' Film Week (first full week of the month)  
[www.filmeducation.org](http://www.filmeducation.org)
- National Poetry Day (Thursday of the first full week of the month)  
[www.nationalpoetryday.org.uk](http://www.nationalpoetryday.org.uk)
- Parents' Week (middle of the month) [www.familyandparenting.org](http://www.familyandparenting.org)
- CSV Make a Difference Day [www.csv.org.uk/difference](http://www.csv.org.uk/difference)
- Family Learning Week [www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk](http://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk)

- International School Library Day (first Monday in October) [www.sla.org.uk/isld.php](http://www.sla.org.uk/isld.php)
- Black History Month [www.black-history-month.co.uk](http://www.black-history-month.co.uk)
- The Man Booker Prize (winners announced) [www.themanbookerprize.com](http://www.themanbookerprize.com)
- National Tell-a-Story Day [www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk](http://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk)
- The Guardian Children's Fiction Prize [www.guardian.co.uk/books/guardianchildrensfictionprize](http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/guardianchildrensfictionprize)
- Everybody Writes Day (end of October) [www.everybodywrites.org.uk](http://www.everybodywrites.org.uk)

### **November**

- The Blue Peter Book Prize [www.bbc.co.uk/bluepeter](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bluepeter)

### **December**

- Blog 4 Books! Competition [www.oneeducation.co.uk](http://www.oneeducation.co.uk)