

# Welcome to our Parent Reading Workshop

## Our aims for today –

- Look at what the research says about reading and its importance
- Understand the importance of early reading and phonics
- Understand the importance of fluency and how you can build this at home
- Have a clear understanding of comprehension
- Give hints and tips of how to get your child reading at home



The survey of 71,400 children and young people by the National Literacy Trust early in 2023 has revealed that **fewer than one in three children (28%) aged eight to 18 read daily for enjoyment.**

While this remains the same as for 2022, the figure stood at 38% when the survey began in 2005, marking a 26% fall in those who read daily.

# Why is there a decline in reading for pleasure?

- Games and online distractions
- Rise in social media
- Find books boring
- Lack of time
- Not being read to from an early age by adults (at home and school)
- Seeing reading as a process for learning rather a pleasure activity
  - **'Reading for pleasure' is being confused with 'literacy'** by many parents at home who commonly don't realise that the more it's pushed as a school subject, the less likely a child is to choose to do it. In the school environment, the national curriculum focuses on reading skills above reading pleasure. However, when pleasure drives reading, children achieve more.

# Why is reading at home vital?

‘Reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children’s educational success than their family’s socio-economic status.’ (OECD 2002)

(Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)



## Why Your Child Can't Skip Their 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight

James

Travis

reads 20 minutes per night,  
5 times per week



reads only 4 minutes per night  
...or not at all

In one week:

100

minutes of reading



20

minutes of reading

In one month:

400

minutes of reading



80

minutes of reading

In one school year (9 months):

3600

minutes of reading



720

minutes of reading

By the end of eighth grade:

28,800

minutes of reading



5760

minutes of reading

Which student would you expect to read better?  
Which student would you expect to know more?  
Which student would you expect to write better?  
Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?  
Which student would you expect to be more successful in school and life?  
How do you think each student will feel about himself as a learner?



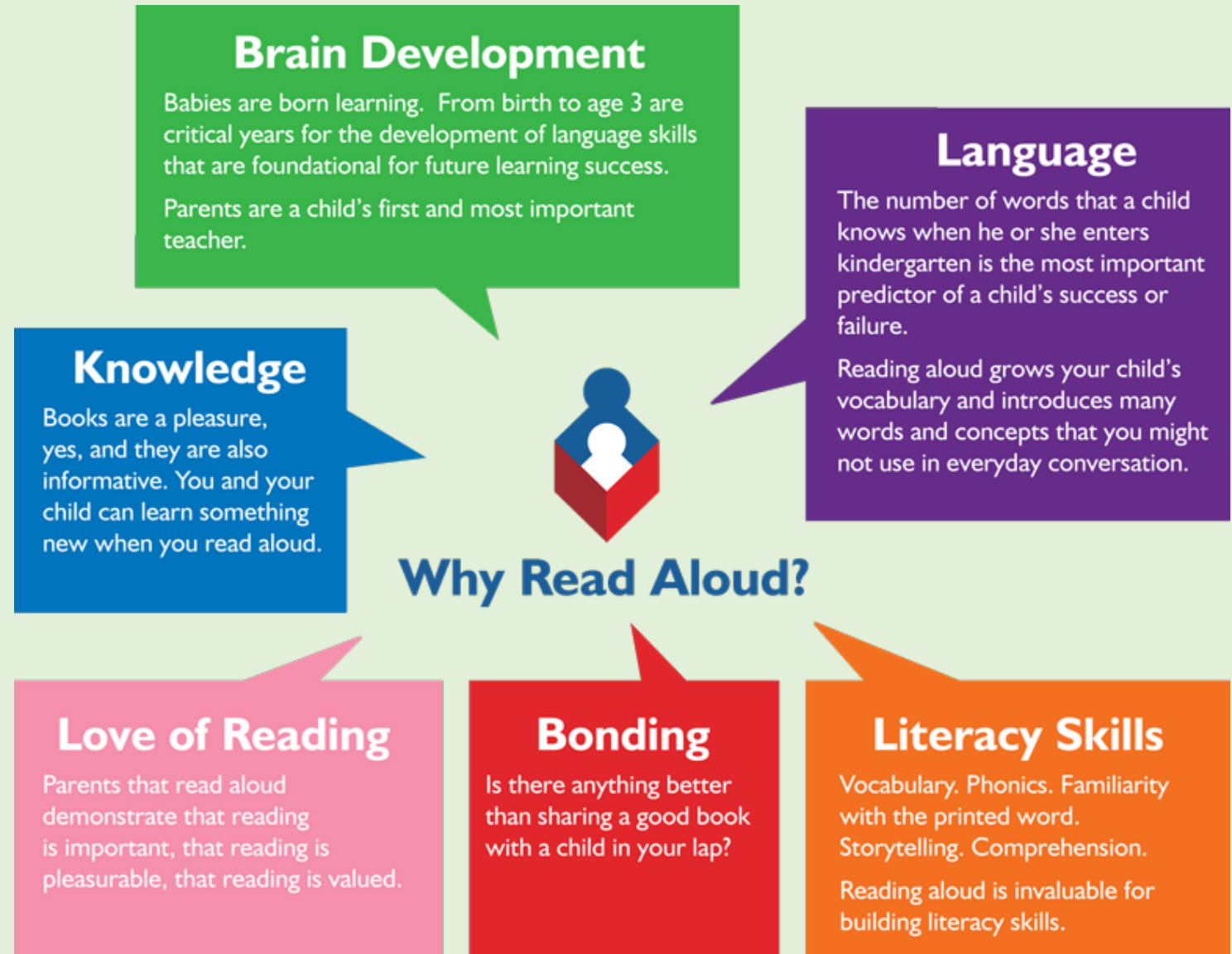
GREER GENIUS  
BRILLIANT DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

# Impact of reading

Amount of reading	20 mins	5 mins	1 min
Number of minutes per year	3600	900	180
Number of words per year	1.8 Million	282,000	8000
Hours read by the end of primary school	851	212	42
Performance on tests	90%	50%	10%

# Reading from an early age and securing phonics

- Reading from an early age is important as research shows that if children are not secure and fluent readers by Year 2, it is very difficult to then develop a love of reading going forward.
- In order to get children fluent in reading, their phonic knowledge must be embedded within EYFS and KS1.
- Read to children from day zero!



# Phonics

- Support your child to say the sounds and blend them together to read each word.
- Help your child to recognise the words that are not decodable – for example 'the', 'he', 'she' etc.
- Once all words are decoded re-read the sentence as a whole – this is something that can help with all children who are not yet fluent.
- i.e. 'The man is in the van.'

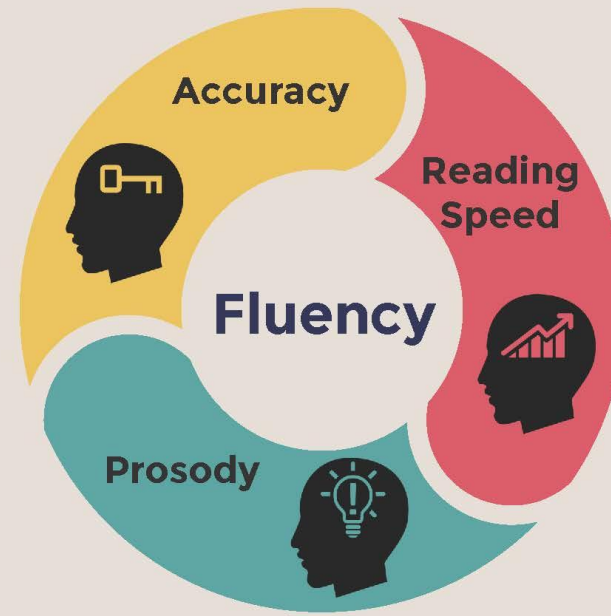


# What is fluency and why is it important?

- Basically, if the brain's processing power isn't being used up by working out how to read a word, it can concentrate on understanding (comprehension) and enjoying the text.

## What is Fluency?

Oral reading fluency includes 3 parts.



### Accuracy

Reading with few errors.

### Reading Speed

The rate at which a student reads.

### Prosody

The skill of reading aloud with proper intonation, phrasing, and expression.

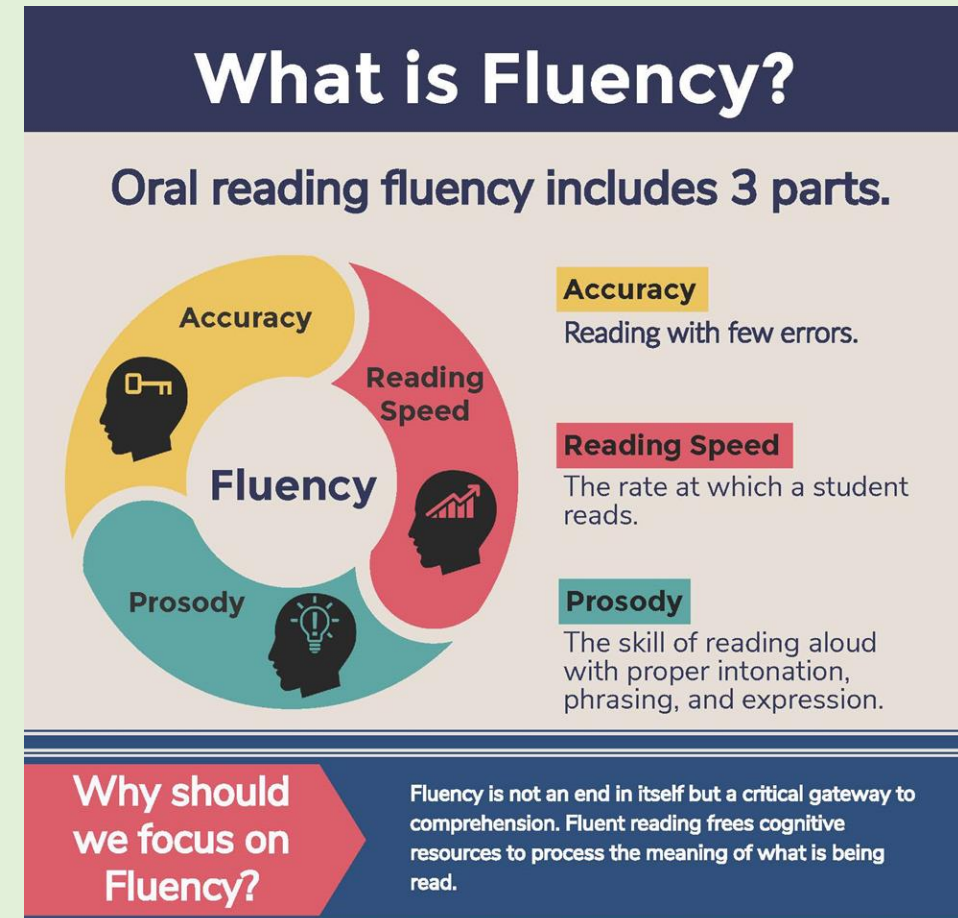
### Why should we focus on Fluency?

Fluency is not an end in itself but a critical gateway to comprehension. Fluent reading frees cognitive resources to process the meaning of what is being read.



# What is fluency and why is it important?

- For a child to be fluent, phonic knowledge is important.
- When a child is fluent, we can focus on understanding and comprehension.
- When comprehension is secure, the child will enjoy what they read.
- Secure phonics and fluency all reduce cognitive load.

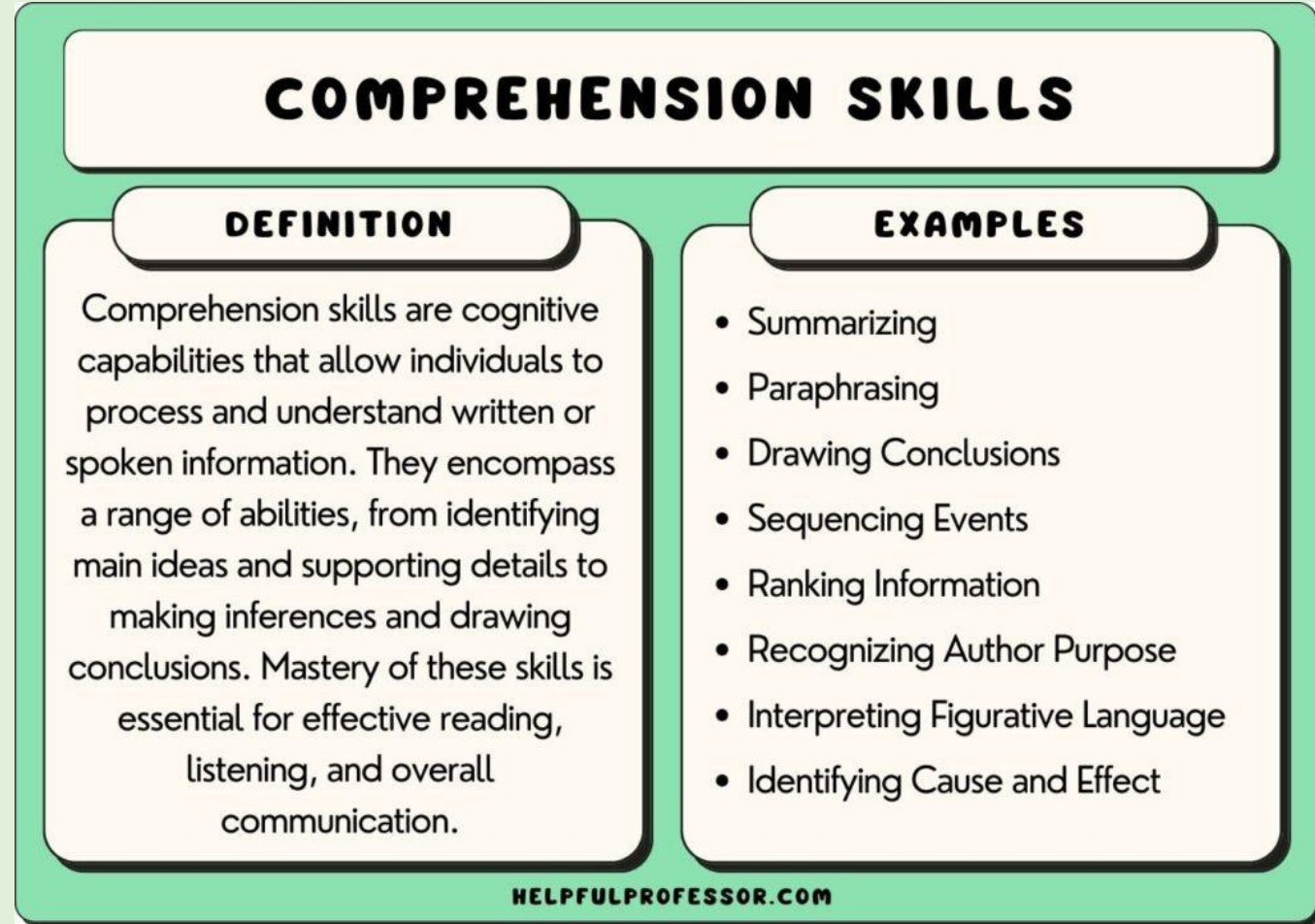


# Three ways you can help build fluency at home...

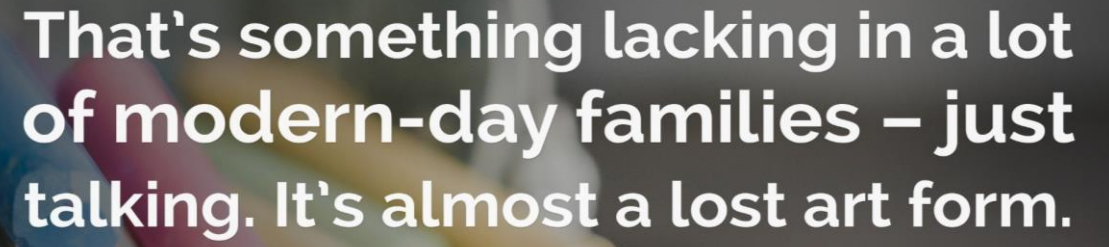
1. **Read and follow** – the adult reads the text and the child follows along with their finger. This helps the child with word recognition and models to them how they should read with fluency.
2. **My turn, your turn** – take turns reading a sentence or page. Here you are modelling how to read with fluency, flow and expression.
3. **Echo Reading** – as you read, the child copies. It is important here to pace yourself and read at a rate that your child can keep up with.

# What is comprehension?

- This refers to the understanding of a text.
- There are cases of where children are able to read thanks to secure phonics knowledge and the ability to decode but do not understand what they have read.



# What you can do to help develop comprehension...



That's something lacking in a lot of modern-day families – just talking. It's almost a lost art form.

Ryan Kwanten

- Comprehension of the world will develop comprehension in reading...
- Ways you can develop comprehension –
  - Talking a lot at home... about everything
  - Develop cultural capital by going out (this does not have to cost money)
  - Reading together and discussing books together
    - Why do you like this book?
    - What do you think will happen next?
    - What do you think about this character?

# How to encourage reading at home

- Having books that the child owns
- Using the library to help build variety
- Exposing children to texts beyond novel. E.g. comics, magazines, non-fiction books
- Taking control of screens – reading first and then screentime
- Show that you love reading... even if you have to fake it
- Give children books that matter to them – those that represent who they are
- Reward reading through extrinsic and intrinsic motivators

# In your packs...

## Reading With Your Child

### Some questions to ask your child whilst reading together:

1. Look at the front cover. What could the book be about?
2. Who is the author?
3. What is an illustrator? What do they do?
4. What does that word mean? Read the words around it to help you figure it out (context).
5. How can you read an unfamiliar word? Can you sound talk and then blend?
6. Who are the main characters?
7. What do you think will happen next?
8. How do you think that character feels? Why? How would you feel in that situation?
9. Can you predict how the book will end?
10. Who is your favourite character? Why?
11. Is there a hidden message in the story? What is it?
12. Can you retell the story in your own words?
13. Do you like how the story ended? Can you think of another way the book could have ended?

## Top Tips

### For Reading with Your Child at Home



As we all know, there is a lot more to reading than just reading! Here are some tips to help during reading sessions with your child at home.

- What is happening? Talk about what is happening in the pictures before you read the text. What can you see?
- Discuss the meaning of words. Use a dictionary to get your child used to exploring words for themselves.
- Discuss alternative words. For example, 'big'. Ask your child to think of another word that means the same, e.g. 'huge' (use a thesaurus).
- Make predictions. What do you think will happen next? What makes you think that?
- Start at the end of the book. What do you think has happened before this point? Why do you think that?
- Discuss feelings. How do you think the characters are feeling? What has made them feel this way?
- Where is the story set? Have you read another story with the same setting? For example, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen and 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson are both set in the woods.
- Discuss the problem in the story. What has happened? What went wrong?
- Discuss the resolution. How was the problem solved? Is there another way it could have been resolved?
- Fact or fiction? Is this book a story book or a non-fiction book? How do you know?
- What have you learnt? What do you know now that you didn't know before reading the book?

#### During Reading

Encourage children to use expression when reading, especially for the voices of different characters.

Discuss the punctuation on the page, for example, exclamation marks. Ask: what are these for? What should you do when you see an exclamation mark?

You do not always have to read the entire book every night. Focus on 2 pages and talk about the characters, setting, and plot in a lot of detail. You might want to take it in turns to read so your child can hear how you read.



**Any questions?**