



Creating a Reading Culture

Why?

How?

Who?

I get sad every
time I hear a
person say, "I
don't read." It's
like saying "I
don't learn," or
"I don't laugh,"
or "I don't
live."

Why read?

- There is a growing body of evidence which illustrates the importance of reading for pleasure for both **educational purposes** as well as **personal development** (cited in Clark and Rumbold, 2006).
- Evidence suggests that there is **a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment** (Clark 2011; Clark and Douglas 2011).
- The IOE study found that **children who read for pleasure made more progress in maths, vocabulary and spelling between the ages of 10 and 16 than those who rarely read.**

Why read?

Expands vocabulary

Helps with understanding

Makes you better at writing

Helps with your learning in all subjects

Gets you jobs

Helps you achieve better exam results

Improves opportunities in life

The **MORE** that you **READ**,
the more **THINGS** you will **KNOW**.

The **MORE** you **LEARN**,
the more **PLACES** you'll **GO!**

~ Dr. Seuss

The reality....

The number of children reading for pleasure is declining.



What are we doing about all this?

In English, the library and SFL:

Personal reading in every lesson

Pupils can choose their own novels

Reading age appropriate material (challenging but accessible)

Encouraging variety of texts and genres

Targeted intervention in collaboration with SFL

Pupils responsible for keeping a track of their own reading

Updating website with relevant information about reading

What are we doing about this?

- Across the school community:

Increased use of the library (a BRILLIANT resource)

Paired Reading

Vibrant displays on our favourite books

What I am reading now...

Collating reading lists/recommended reads (Writes of Passage)

Writing book reports for the school intranet

How can you help create a **Reading Culture**?

Research shows that your interest and involvement in your child's learning and education is more important than anything else in helping your child fulfil their potential. As parents, you are the people who go with your child on their learning journey, from the day they are born to the time they become an adult.

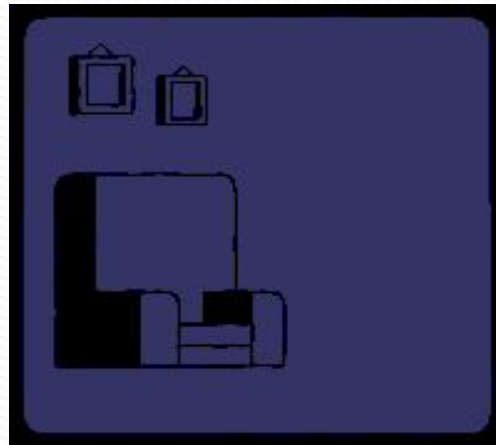
● WHAT WORKS?

- CHOICE – the more variety and personalisation, the more successful any reading drive will be
- INTEREST – finding a range of quality reading material to ‘hook’ all types of readers
- RELATIONSHIPS – reading for pleasure is strongly influenced by relationships – parents and children, teachers and children
- MODELLING good reading
- TALKING about reading, making recommendations and sharing reviews
- TIME for reading

Some Ideas

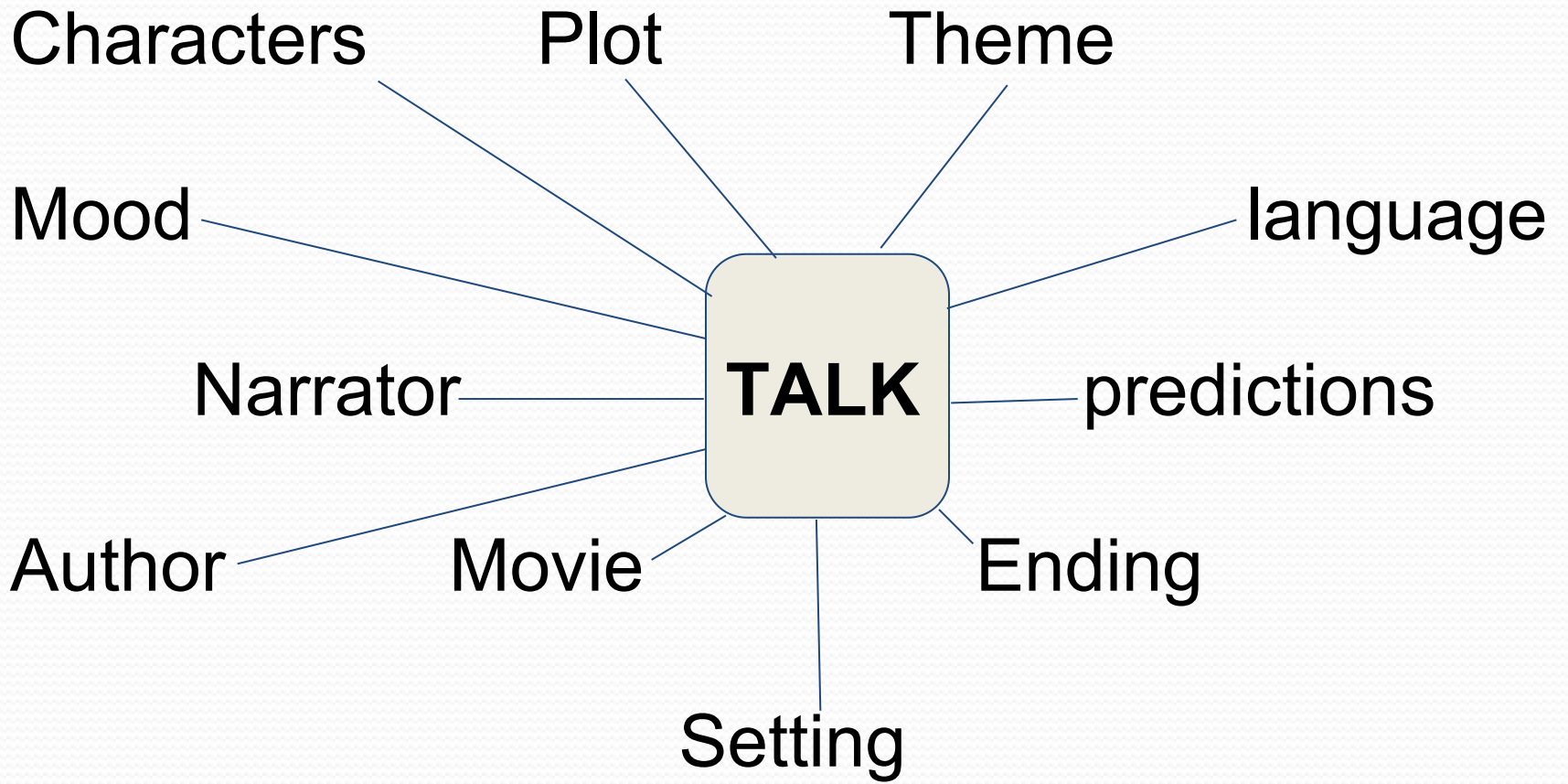
- **Model reading** - Let your children see you read for pleasure. Share vocabulary, quotes, characters and the story with them. Compare similarities and differences between your book and the books your children are reading. Have magazines and newspapers around the house. Be A “Reading family”.

- **Make time for Reading** - find a time and place that suits your child. Try to make it a comfortable, positive experience- A time to relax, to switch off from the stress of everyday life.



- **A Family novel?** - everyone reads the same book and talk about it as you're all reading.





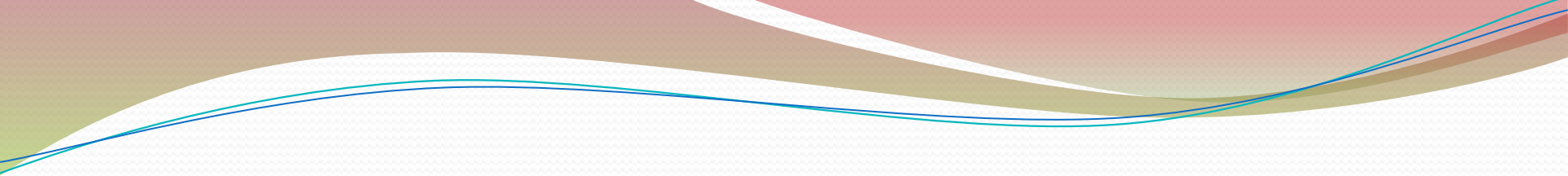
Common Issues



PROBLEM - I don't have time

SOLUTION - Incorporating even 15-20 minutes of active reading into your daily schedule will help realise many of the benefits of reading for pleasure. Think about when this time can be allocated and perhaps all the family could read at the same time!

Remove “weapons of mass distraction” (phones, tablets, laptops, TV). Drastic, we know, but this is the most common response when pupils are asked what their parents can do to support their reading.



PROBLEM - I don't know what to read/I can't find anything good to read

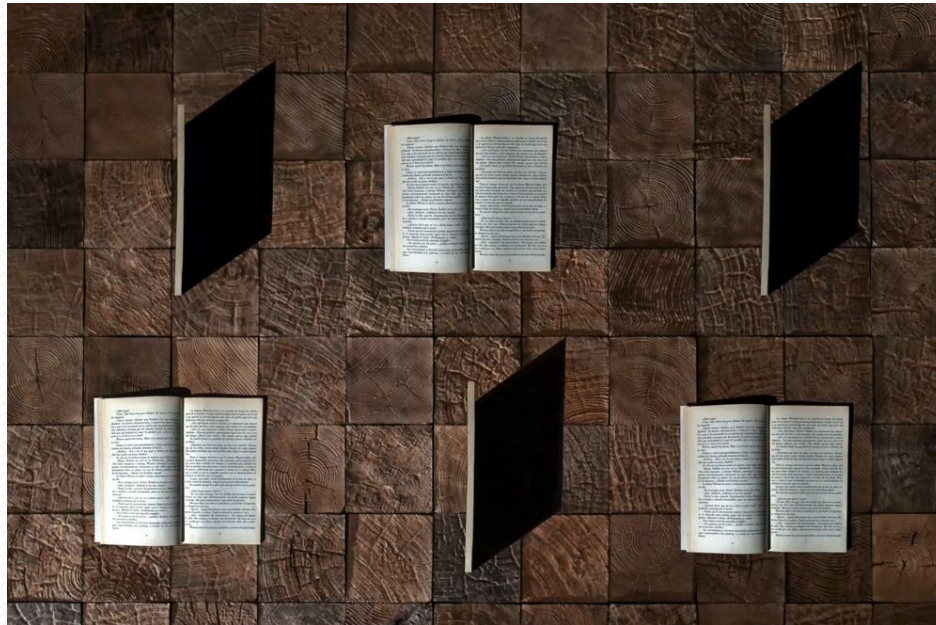
SOLUTION - Go to www.guardian.com and look for the **Book Doctor** for solutions to all sorts of problems like: 'What are the best autobiographies for children and teenagers?' or 'Wanted: picture books for older children and fluent readers'.

- - Go to www.booktrust.org.uk and look at the Book Finder. Books are sorted by age range and genre/theme for easy searching
- Check out recommended reading lists, displays around school and reviews.
- Talk!

The best recommendations often come from friends, classmates, parents, librarians and teachers.

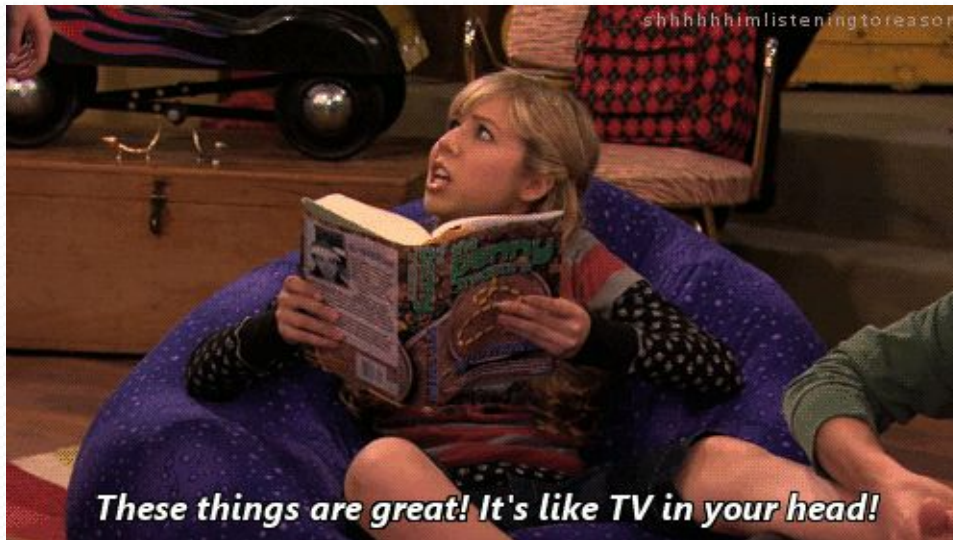
PROBLEM - The book I want is not in the library

SOLUTION - Request it! We can have it in the library within a week (most of the time).



PROBLEM - I don't like reading

SOLUTION - you just haven't found the right book!



A request.....

- We are trying to create a “Writes Of Passage” board for all our pupils to get inspiration for reading. Please could you fill out our “Share a Story” template to add to our board.

Today I'd like to
sit and read

Forget I have a
job I need

Ignore the things
I have to do

And just enjoy a
book or two