

# Reading is important!

## Why should you read with your child?

<p><b>1,800,000 words</b></p>  <p><b>90<sup>th</sup> percentile</b></p>	<p><b>282,000 words</b></p>  <p><b>50<sup>th</sup> percentile</b></p>	<p><b>8,000 words</b></p>  <p><b>10<sup>th</sup> percentile</b></p>
<p>This child reads for 20 minutes a day.</p>	<p>This child reads for 5 minutes a day.</p>	<p>This child reads for 1 minute a day.</p>

At John Blandy, reading is a key part of the English curriculum. Reading is happening all the time in the classroom. It is taught in specific reading and English lessons, but children are constantly practising their reading skills in the wider curriculum.

### What is reading?

Reading is making meaning from print. It requires that we:

Identify the words in print - a process called word recognition

Construct an understanding from them - a process called comprehension

Coordinate identifying words and making meaning so that reading is automatic and accurate - an achievement called fluency

As children move through EYFS and KS1, they develop their skills in decoding. By the time they reach KS2 most children have mastered their phonic skills and the balance moves towards making meaning from the text and developing fluency.

### Did you know?

If you can't read 5% of words in a text the meaning becomes lost. This is why it is so important to read with your child to help them overcome unfamiliar or tricky words, so that they understand what they are reading.

### What should parents do at home to support their child's reading development?

Read every night for up to twenty minutes.

Listen to your child read. This helps them to develop their fluency. It is especially important for KS2 children that this continues all the way up to Year 6.

Read to your child. This will help them to understand how to use expression to bring stories to life and develop their own voice as readers.

After listening to them, or reading to them, ask them some of the questions about the text that they have just read. The discussion you have will be very valuable to their reading development.

Talk about the meanings of new words.

Read the same book again and again if you have to!

Sign the diary five times a week.