Reading Records: Helping Your Child in Reception

Key points

- A reading record is a diary used to share how your child is getting on with their reading between home and school.
- School books are often 'decodable', meaning they use the specific phonics (the sounds letters make) your child has learned in class.
- Reading for pleasure, such as listening to a bedtime story, is different from phonics practice and is just as important.
- Teachers find specific notes more helpful than a simple tick, such as which words your child found tricky.
- Every school has its own way of using the diary, so please ask your child's teacher if you are unsure what to write.

Things to try at home

- Play a game of 'I Spy' using the sounds your child is learning in school.
- Let your child 'read' a favourite picture book to you by telling the story through the images.
- Spot letters or sounds from their school books on cereal boxes or street signs while you are out.
- Encourage your child to re-read a book they already know and love to help them feel more confident.

Find out more

- Your child's class teacher or the school's EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) lead.
- The official GOV.UK website for information on the National Curriculum.