

3. The reading environment

Reading is all around

- Think about where and what you read in your everyday life.
- Think about opportunities for reading that your child encounters in his/her everyday life.
- Think about how reading and reading materials have changed since you were learning to read.



We don't just read books

- Although books are very important for developing children's love of reading and early reading skills, there are reading opportunities everywhere.
- As technology and media has progressed, how and what we read have changed.
- It is important that we encourage children to read now but also prepare them for reading in the future. This increasingly means reading from alternative resources.

Logos

- As companies invest more into branding, we have become more familiar with popular logos.
- Children can learn to read/recognise some of these logos at an early age.



Other forms of printed material

- Children might not access many printed reading materials outside of books but it is helpful for them to be aware of them and what they are used for.
- Adults modelling reading and talking about these opportunities can help prepare children for future reading.



Print in the environment

- Print is all around us, all the time.
- Nursery children might not be ready to sound out the words they see but they should understand that environmental print carries meaning and is useful to us.
- They may also start recognising/reading environmental print that they frequently encounter.



Technology and reading

- Nowadays, we spend a lot of time reading material online. It is only natural that children are also beginning to take an interest in online reading.
- This could be reading the symbols on a smartphone or tablet.
- It may be reading online books.
- Or instructions on how to play a game (probably modelled by an adult).
- But, like it or not, we need children to understand that we can use technology as a source of reading and information.

Have a go!

- Have a go at some of the reading tips mentioned in this Power point.
- But please remember there is no substitute for a good, old book.
- If you have not already done so, please join your local library or Idea Store to borrow good quality reading materials.
- The next Power point will look at play around books.

