

At Kingsdale we want to provide parents and carers with the resources they need to support their child's literacy needs across all areas of the curriculum.

This Literacy Hub will provide information and resources for the following key areas:

- Communication
- Reading
- Writing (including SPaG)

Communication

Language skills are the foundation of functional literacy and our resources help to support parents and carers with this.

Language skills are fundamental for communication and expressing feelings and thoughts.

Reading

Competency in reading requires fluency, comprehension and inference skills. Our resources provide examples of how to explore these techniques through both discussion and written text.

We will also provide some advice for getting children to read at home.

Writing

A blank page can be the most daunting element of the writing process, especially for those that find writing difficult.

As a skill, writing is made of four components: handwriting, planning, content creation and editing.



Literacy is the door to knowledge, essential to individual self-esteem and empowerment. Books, in all forms, play an essential role here.

Irina Bokova

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

Communication

Receptive language

This means understanding language by listening to speech, interpreting non-verbal cues and comprehending written language.

Expressive language

This is the ability to communicate and interact by using language to express ideas, wants and needs.

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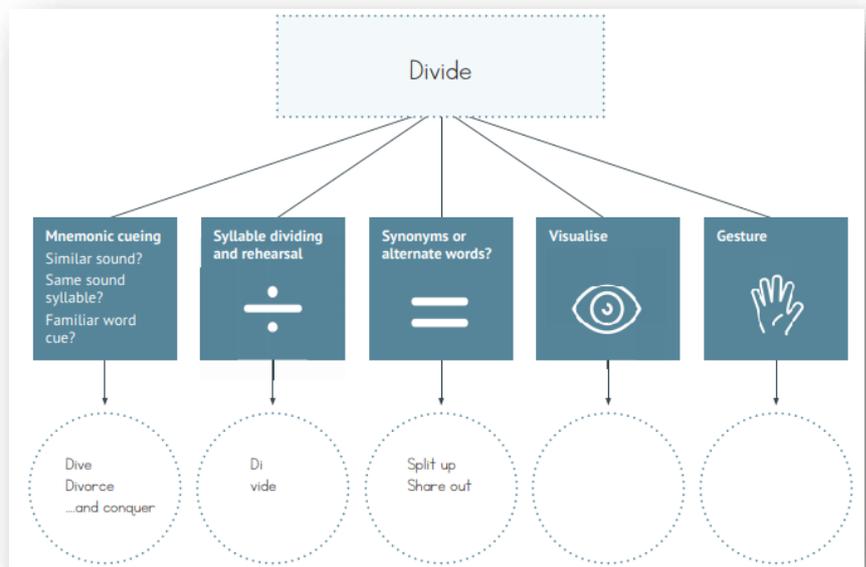
This is enabling discussion and conversations to build a child's confidence in using their voice.

Idea to try:



Exploring new words through discussion. Try to discuss new language with your child.

Here is a simple example using the word 'Divide':



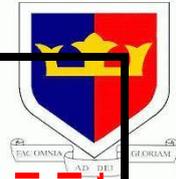
Top tips:

1. Compliment and praise their vocabulary.
2. Teach and model active listening.
3. Repeat words.
4. Question your child by reiterating the question to them.
5. Encourage the use of non-verbal communications.
6. Ask open-ended questions, "Tell me about your day".
7. Be a good role model.
8. Read, read, read.
9. Do not talk over your child.
10. Talk to your children.



Useful links:

- **Word games for families:** <https://www.dropbox.com/s/o3lw2zjyahw6shs/Word%20games%20for%20families.pdf?dl=0>
- **Over 7000 books available to be read to students:** <https://readon.myon.co.uk/library/browse.html>
- **Variety of up to date discussion topics:** <https://economistfoundation.org/resources/>



Reading

Decoding and fluency

This is the ability to breakdown words and develop an understanding of their meaning, and to read without faltering.

Comprehension

This means that once children can read sentences fluently, they should then be able to interpret meaning from the text.

Inference

This is what lies beneath the words – the feeling or impression the author is conveying through their word choices.

Techniques

This means using techniques to help children make connections in text, understand context and use the technical language of literacy.

Idea to try:



Ensure deeper levels of understanding and enjoyment in your child's reading.

Here are 20 ways to explore reading material



Play Write a play about part of the story	New Cover Design a new cover for the book.	My Favourite Part Write about your favourite part of the book? Why do you like it?	Beginning, Middle, End Summarise the story at each of these stages
Song or Rap Make up a song or rap about your book	Key Words Write down 10 words that are important to your book	Draw Draw a picture of your favourite character.	Comic Strip Choose 5 important events and turn them into a comic strip
Missing Poster Create a wanted poster for a character from your book. Include a description, what they did and a reward	Quiz Write 5 questions about your reading book. Make sure you know the answers!	Acrostic Poem Choose a character in your book and write an acrostic poem	What next? Predict what might happen in a sequel to the story
Write a letter Write a letter to one of the characters. Include at least 1 question you want to ask them	The Good and the Bad Write down 3 good and 3 bad things about the main character	Character Profile Write a description of the main character	Book Review Did you like or dislike your book? Explain why. Who else do you think would like it?
Poster Make a poster to advertise your reading book	Change the ending Write a different ending to your book	Timeline Using pictures explain the order of events. Label your pictures	Holiday Destination Describe where and when the story took place

Top tips:

- ✓ Show your teenager that it is as much fun to read a book as it is to watch TV or play on the computer.
- ✓ Create a quiet, well-lit space in your home to encourage reading.
- ✓ Make sure that your home contains books that will interest your teenager.
- ✓ Encourage your teenager to read magazines, newspapers or the sports guide. Leave them around your home. It doesn't really matter what your child reads as long as they read!
- ✓ Subscribe to a magazine that your teenager has an interest in.
- ✓ Share articles you've read from the newspaper or a magazine, especially if it's something your teenager is interested in. Sunday supplements are particularly good.
- ✓ Play audio books in the car. This will encourage reading for enjoyment.
- ✓ Recommend adult-themed books that would be appropriate.
- ✓ Link books and reading to films at the cinema or video games they know.
- ✓ Introduce books which are part of a series, and biographies.
- ✓ Ask teenagers to recommend books for younger readers in the family.
- ✓ Make use of e-books and e-book readers such as Kindles.

Useful links:

- **Over 7000 books linked to Accelerated Reader quizzes available to be read to students:**
<https://readon.myon.co.uk/library/browse.html>
- **Audiobooks on BBC Sounds:**
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/category/audiobooks?sort=popular>
- **BBC bitesize: Reading skills:**
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs8nv4j>

Writing

Handwriting

Handwriting is a complex skill, but with the right support improvements can be made in both presentation and speed.

Planning

Planning out content is a crucial step in organising thoughts and ideas into a coherent order.

Content

This is the culmination of thoughts and planning to create well written and structured answers.

Editing

Making improvements in your own work can be a challenge. Modelling the editing process is the key to success.

Idea to try:



Multiple ways to explore spelling.

Using a table, like the one here, your child can review words as often as possible.

Every column doesn't need filling in for every word!



Target word to learn	What shape does the word make?	How many syllables?	Are there any little words inside?	What is the tricky bit?	Is there a mnemonic?	Turn over this sheet to write the word (tick if correct)
height		1		silent letters		
independent		4	in, pen	-ent ending not -ant		
definitely		4	finite			
necessary		4		l c 2 s's	never eat crisps eat salad sandwiches and remain young	
separate		3	rat			

Top tips:

1. **Have a story-filled life: the best writers are readers!**
2. **Let your child see you write.**
3. **Create a writing space.**
4. **Schedule quality writing time into your day.**
5. **Give your child authentic writing experiences.**
6. **Let art be a part of writing. Get creative!**
7. **Teach your child to write in all different genres.**
8. **Have realistic expectations about spelling and grammar.**
9. **Do not forget about spelling and grammar.**
10. **Give support and encouragement.**

Useful links:

- **BBC bitesize: Writing skills:** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zywfbk7>
- **Quizzes: On all aspects of SPaG:** <https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/english/>
- **Writing Competitions:** <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-4>
Daily free spelling lessons ages 5-50: <https://www.sirlinalot.org/lessons/mpetiti>

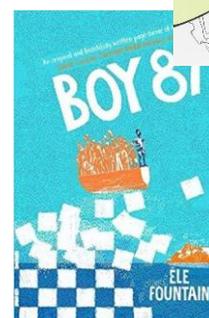
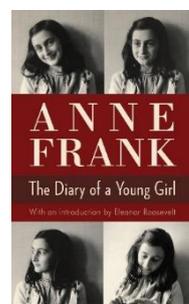
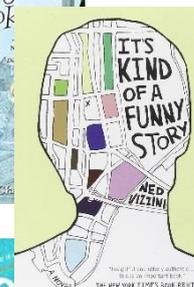
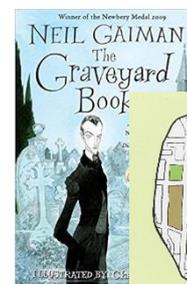
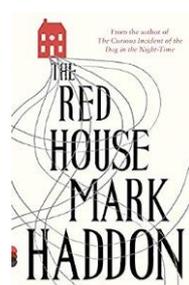
Reading Lists

KS3

Coraline- Neil Gaiman
The Chaos Walking series- Patrick Ness
The Wizard of Earthsea- Ursula Le Guin
The Dark is Rising- Susan Cooper
The Lie Tree- Frances Hardinge
The Day of the Triffids- John Wyndham
A Wrinkle in Time: Madeleine L'Engle
A Monster Calls- Patrick Ness
The London Eye Mystery- Siobhan Dowd
Holes- Louis Sachar
Stone Cold- Robert Swindells
Marina- Carlos Ruiz Zafon
Once- Morris Gleitzmann
Ruby in the Smoke- Philip Pullman
Bog Child- Siobhan Dowd
The Eagle of the Ninth- Rosemary Sutcliffe
Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry- Mildred Taylor
Witch Child- Celia Rees
Coram Boy- Jamila Gavin
The Graveyard Book- Neil Gaiman
The Heroes of Olympus series- Rick Riordan
Black Hearts in Battersea- Joan Aiken
The Keeper- Mal Peet
One of us is Lying- Karen M. McManus
Wonder- R J Palacio
The Rest of Us Just Live Here- Patrick Ness
Sweetfreak- Sophie McKenzie
All American Boys- Jason Reynolds
We are all made of molecules- Susan Nielsen
The Red House- Mark Haddon
Welcome to nowhere- Elizabeth Laird
Boy 87- Ele Fountain
Trash- Andy Mulligan
The Island at the End of Everything- Kiran Millwood Hargrave
The Garbage King- Elizabeth Laird
The Pearl- John Steinbeck
Flour Babies- Anne Fine
Wed Wabbit- Lissa Evans
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy- Douglas Adams
The Discworld series- Terry Pratchett
Diary of a Young Girl- Anne Frank
Sophie's World- Jostein Gardner
Boy/ Going Solo- Roald Dahl

KS4

The Lord of the Rings- J R R Tolkein
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes- Arthur Conan Doyle
To Kill a Mockingbird- Harper Lee
The Book Thief- Markus Zusak
One day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
Huckleberry Finn- Mark Twain
I Capture the Castle- Dodie Smith
It's Kind of a Funny Story- Ned Vizzini
When Mr Dog Bites- Brian Conaghan
The Reason I Jump: One Boy's Voice from the Silence of Autism- Naoki Higashida
My Family and Other Animals- Gerald Durrell
Never Let Me Go- Kazuo Ishiguro
Wuthering Heights- Emily Bronte
Atonement- Ian McEwan
Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep- Philip K Dick
The Wasp Factory- Iain Banks
1984- George Orwell



100 Must-read classic books:

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/2018/100-must-read-classic-books/>