

Guidance on supporting your children during Coronavirus

(Education Endowment Foundation)

Supporting shared reading

Have fun with reading. Let your child choose what they read and enjoy it together. Short or long, it's time well spent.

We know reading regularly with children can make a massive difference to their progress. But it isn't always easy to fit it in day-to-day. Here are some easy ways you can make reading a part of every day:

1. Don't worry about how long they read for. Every minute spent reading makes a bigger difference than you realise!
2. Don't worry about what your children are reading: recipes, cereal packets, Argos catalogues... It's all useful! Keep books and other reading materials close by.
3. Reading to children of all ages is helpful. If your little one isn't reading by themselves yet, read with them.
4. Ask lots of questions: Who, what, where, when and why and ask them to summarise when they or you have finished.

When you see your child reading, praise them! "I love to see you reading."

Talking with children (the TRUST approach)

We wanted to share a tool with you to help your child think and talk about the world around them.

The TRUST approach can be used when you are talking with your child, such as when you are reading, doing jobs together or playing:

Take turns to talk about what you are going to do. Say things like: "I'm going to wear my red jumper today. What colour jumper would you like to wear"

Recap the plan as you are working. Say things like: "Why do you think that happened?"

Use lots of encouragement. Say things like: "What great ideas... Let's see what happens!"

Share what you know to help your child. Say things like: "Have you learnt about...at school?"

Tune-in and be interested. Say things like: "I didn't know you knew so much about...!"

Find out more about the TRUST framework here and check out these examples of how you can use this in your home while enjoying a meal or while reading together.

The Home Learning routine

Consistent routines can be a struggle at home with changes to our home working and learning. Routines can be helpful in supporting positive behaviour and general well-being. They can also help as you and your family find a new daily routine.

Here are some easy steps you can take to build a great home learning routine with your child: [https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for parents/Supporting home learning routines - Planning the day.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19%20Resources/Resources%20for%20parents/Supporting%20home%20learning%20routines%20-%20Planning%20the%20day.pdf)

Supporting Mathematics Learning at Home: Younger Children

We know maths can feel like a difficult subject to cover at home. The good news is that you don't need to set aside a separate maths lesson or activity. Your child can learn maths during normal, everyday activities! Here are a few tips for how you can support maths learning every day: ☺

- Board games like Snakes and Ladders or other games with numbered spaces can be great for maths learning. You can even make your own! ☺
- Meals and snack times can be great to teach lots of concepts, like sharing, talking about time, counting how many carrots you have, estimating the number of beans or comparing sizes of potatoes.
- Use maths words in conversation and play. This can include talking about size ("Which is bigger?"), order ("Which is first?"), shapes and more. ☺
- Stories can be great opportunities for maths learning. One great free resource for maths stories is <https://www.mathsthroughstories.org/recommendations.html> but you can use other books too! ☺
- Use manipulatives like bricks or toys of different sizes or amounts. Measuring items, scales, construction materials, puzzles, sorting and pattern materials are also great sources for discussion!

Supporting Mathematics Learning at Home: Older Children

We know maths can feel like a difficult subject to cover at home. That is why we want to help with some tips for supporting your child's maths learning while schools are closed: ☒

- Encouraging your child to set goals and make plans can help them learn independently. Older children can be more independent but will still need some support. ☒
- Having a set time and place to study with the resources they will need can help keep children on task and make sure they have the tools for success. ☒
- Practicing times tables, either online or on paper, can be a great tool to help your child remember maths facts quickly and easily! ☒
- It can be hard to learn new maths concepts outside of school. Create time for your child to practice what they already know. ☒
- Providing example problems of maths concepts can be helpful for your child. These should show all steps clearly and have a very similar follow-up problem for them to try.

Find out more tips and resources from the EEF.

<https://www.mathsthroughstories.org/recommendations.html>

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/covid-19-resources/support-resources-to-share-with-parents>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MO9SDGRgi3c&feature=youtu.be>

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for parents/Supporting home learning routines - Planning the day.pdf>

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for schools/Read with TRUST infographic.pdf>

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for schools/Reading with TRUST comic.pdf>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>