



- **St Martin's Catholic Primary School**

Reading with your child

November 2019

Aims

- To explain how you can help your child with reading homework
- To explain the different aspects of reading
- To give hints and tips on how to make this an enjoyable and rewarding experience

Rationale For The Reading Curriculum At St. Martin's

“So it is with children who learn to read fluently and well: They begin to take flight into whole new worlds as effortlessly as young birds take to the sky.” —William James

At St. Martin's our aim is for every child to leave school as a fluent, confident reader, not only because reading is a **valuable skill in its own right**, but also because it is crucial to allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum as **increasingly independent learners**.

Reading is the key to children's development in their academic journey. It is through their reading of quality texts that children are able to absorb that knowledge valued by society, known as **cultural capital**. In order to **participate fully in society**, children will need to be able to read fluently and critically.

For many children, reading is a **source of great pleasure** which will remain with them into adulthood.

The National Curriculum end of KS2

Reading Skills from National Curriculum

Give/explain the meaning of words in context

Retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph

Make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

Predict what might happen from details stated and implied

Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole

Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases

Make comparisons within the text

- Reading widely and often increases pupils' vocabulary because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech. Reading also feeds pupils' imagination and opens up a treasure-house of wonder and joy for curious young minds.
- *DfE Programmes of English Key Stages 1*
- *and 2*

The Power of Reading

Creating a love of reading in children is potentially one of the most powerful ways of improving academic standards in school.

There can be few better ways to improve pupils chances in school, or beyond in the wider world, than to enable them to become truly independent readers.

- Success in reading is fundamental to success in school. Being able to read means that children can independently access all areas of learning.
- *‘The ability to read, with comprehension, is the basis for success in formal education.’*
- Niklas, Cohrssen ,Taylor 2016 (The Sooner the Better : Early Reading to children

What is reading?

Reading is all about acquiring meaning, for enjoyment, information and understanding.

It is not a performance.

It is not a test.

Reading books

In Key Stage 1: books that are sent home will be decodable according to the phase of phonics they are learning in school. The book should contain the sounds that they have been learning in school.

In addition , children are encouraged to select a 'book for pleasure' and this can be chosen during a library session. Children are encouraged to select accessible books.

Reading homework

Reading frequently is essential to help children to become fluent readers.

Children are expected to read everyday at home and this is a very important aspect of homework.

Reading books issued by teachers should be read a few times. This will help with confidence and fluency.

What is phonics?

- There are 26 letters in the English alphabet
- There are 44 sounds (phonemes)
- There are 144 spellings of the sounds in words
- Decoding is hard work for early readers and regular practice is essential.

Decoding

sharp

sh ar p (3 sounds)

elephant

e l e ph a n t (7 sounds)

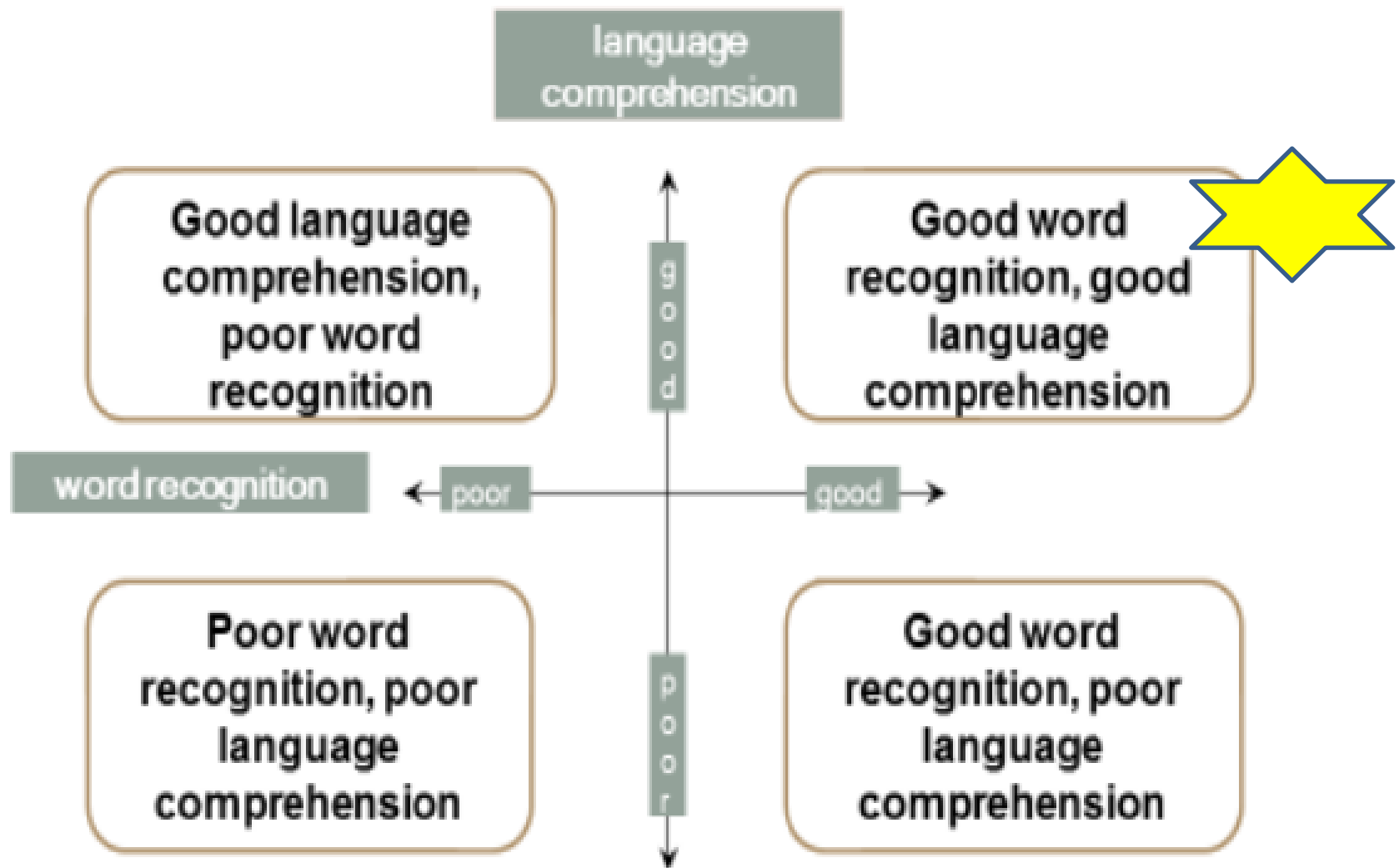
**Words can be segmented and blended
back together**

Talking about books and reading with your child

Being able to read words and decode does not mean you understand what you read.

Your child might sound like a good reader but may not necessarily understand what the text means.

The best way to develop understanding is to talk about texts.



Reading requires two skills

Phonics and Word Recognition

The ability to recognise words presented in and out of context.

The ability to blend letter sounds (phonemes) together to read words.



Understanding

The ability to understand the meaning of the words and sentences in a text.

The ability to understand the ideas, information and themes in a text.

If a child understands what they hear, they will understand the same information when they read.

Comprehension

The best way to develop understanding is to talk about texts.

Do you like this book? Why?

Who is your favourite character? Tell me about a character in the book?

Which words tell you something about the character?

What do you think will happen next?

How would you feel?

What can you tell me about?

Making your child think....

- Find information on the page
- Look for clues to find information that is not on the page
- Predict what might happen next
- Put yourself into the character's shoes.... How would you feel?

Jack and the Beanstalk

Think about the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

- Who are the characters?
- Who is the main character?
- How would *you* feel if someone kept stealing your belongings?
- What might the giant say to Jack's mother?

Setting the scene.....

Set aside a specific time for reading **every day**
and make reading a priority.

Try not to do the reading when you are both
tired!

Walk through the book first and discuss the
pictures and the important words.

Always remember to keep reading aloud to your
child even when they can read independently.

Be positive. Praise your child for trying hard at
their reading.

Let them know it is alright to make mistakes.

The reluctant reader

- Read to them. Children learn from hearing good models of reading
- Take turns reading sentences/ pages
- Read a variety of books that capture interests and imagination
- Choice... fiction, non-fiction, magazines, web pages, poetry, picture books, graphic novels (comic style books) short stories

To help fluency

- Repeat the book . Children will notice different things and this will aid understanding. Try using different voices
- Confidence will increase

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Resources

- School library
- Public library
- Websites with recommendations:
- <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>
- <https://www.booksfortopics.com/>

