



OLDCASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Inspire Motivate Educate



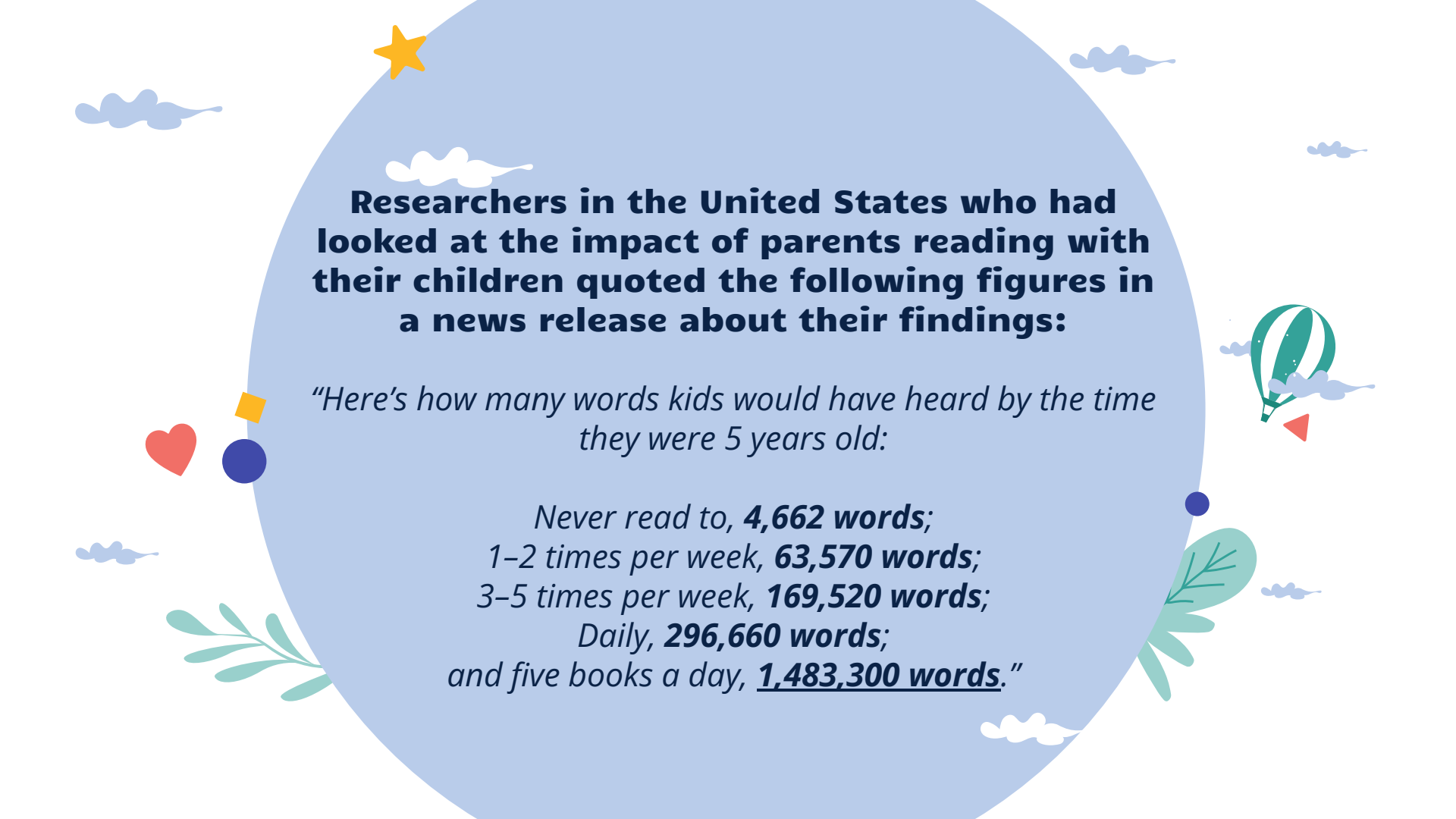
**READING
at
OLDCASTLE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Year 2 - Year 6**





Welcome

- Whole - school target
- Strategies and approaches
- How can you support?



Researchers in the United States who had looked at the impact of parents reading with their children quoted the following figures in a news release about their findings:

"Here's how many words kids would have heard by the time they were 5 years old:

*Never read to, **4,662 words**;
1-2 times per week, **63,570 words**;
3-5 times per week, **169,520 words**;
Daily, **296,660 words**;
and five books a day, **1,483,300 words**."*

- *Read Write Inc.* is a popular phonics scheme.
- Like all phonics schemes, it teaches children the sounds in English, the letters that represent them, and how to form the letters when writing.
- *Read Write Inc. Phonics* includes reading books written using only the letters they have learnt at each level (and a small number of separately taught tricky words).
- The children will quickly feel confident and successful.



**Where your
child's
journey
began...**

Read, Write, Inc.

- *Core Knowledge* was a full, whole-school approach to reading and writing.
- The approach incorporated grammar, punctuation, spellings and written structure - providing building blocks for writing.
- Core Knowledge allowed teachers to plan sequential lessons, providing pupils with knowledge of other areas for example science and history.
- Core Knowledge supported the school through lockdown by enabling parents to continue pupil learning.



**Where your
child's
journey
began...**

Core Knowledge

The Literary Curriculum immerses children in a literary world, therefore creating strong levels of engagement to provide meaningful and authentic contexts for primary English.

LITERACY

The Literary Curriculum

A complete thematic approach to primary English, with literature at its core

AT A GLANCE

- A complete book-based approach to literacy to interest, engage and activate inference
- A rigorously curated collection of rich and varied books rooted in strong contexts
- Follows a 'Teach Through a Text' pedagogy
- Cohesive sequences to help children build a literary repertoire
- Structured to develop deeper reading

REVIEWED BY: JOHN DABELL

Giving children access to all varieties of literature is extremely important for their success. One way to develop your curriculum is to teach topics focused on a book-based English curriculum, encouraging children to work towards shared goals of ownership and authorship of their reading and writing.

Well worth considering is The Literary Curriculum, a complete, thematic approach to the teaching of primary English that places children's literature at its core. This flexible and cross-curricular treasure trove provides ideas, inspiration and structure for you to use in your curriculum and take on board.

narrative poems, playscripts and narrative non-fiction with a healthy cross-sectional jumble from letters of narrative and literary to adventure and fantasy. They dare children to grow and challenge perceptions, and allow them to experience multiple realties and bring reading and writing to life. Through downloadable planning is provided, too, based around high-quality children's books downloaded to detailed daily lesson plans for writing, reading and spelling. All come with customizable medium-term overviews. The plans follow a 'Teach Through a Text' approach to ensure each teacher, in one way



**teach
PRIMARY**

VERDICT

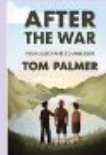
- ✓ Puts literature at the very heart of English provision
- ✓ Creates immersive experiences for children that provide a platform for learning

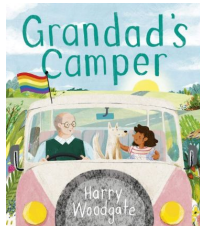
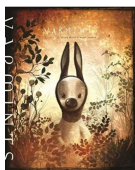
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Texts Covered

Year 4	Significant people of Wales and the World			How do we get energy?			Famous Inventions and how they have changed the world.		
Writing Root	 Winter's Child	 The Iron Man	 The Mermaid of Zennor	 Varmints	 Shackleton's Journey	 The Baker by the Sea	 Jabberwocky (found online and in planning)	 Until I Met Dudley	
Whole-Class Reading (Literary Leaves)	 The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	 The Undefeated	 Zombierella	 The Wild Robot	 Humans: Ancient Civilization	 Tamarind and the Star of Ishta	 Letters from the Lighthouse	 The Firework Maker's Daughter	
Year 5	How our differences affect us			How can humans impact the environment?			The Role of Parliament in a Democratic Society		
Writing Root	 The Island	 Percy Jackson	 Hidden Figures	 The Lost Thing	 The Tempest	 Beowulf			
Whole-Class Reading (Literary Leaves)	 The Listeners	 The Tiger Rising	 Cogheart	 Good Thieves	 The Polar Bear Explorer's Club	 Titanic			 Real-life mysteries

Texts Covered

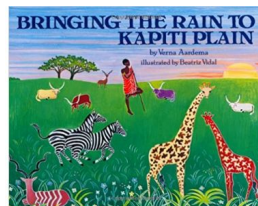
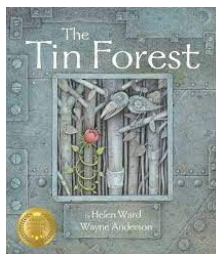
Year 6	Justice and Freedom			How did the world come to be?			Fashion Industry	
Writing Root								Production - creation of staging, props, playscripts, oracy focus
	The Arrival	Windrush Child	Suffragette: The Battle for Equality	Boy in the Tower	The Invention of Hugo Cabret	Can we save the tiger?	The Three Little Pigs Project (Link above) A Beautiful Lie	
Whole Class Reading (Literary Leaves)							Production - Rehearsal Time	
	Fly Me Home	Caged Bird	The Explorer			After the War		



Grammar

Group Work

Curiosity



Questions

Relationships

Engage

Vocabulary

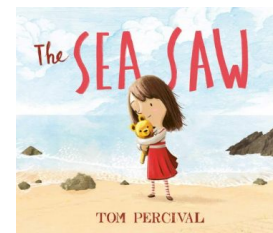
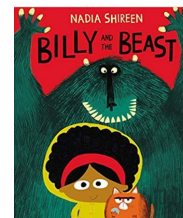
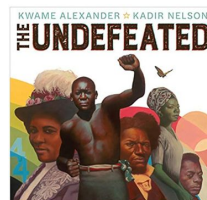
Punctuation

Writing Opportunities

Exploring self

Illustrations

Plot and Characters



How do we teach reading at Oldcastle?

Year 2 - Year 6

Guided Reading

Comprehension

Inference

Deduction

Literacy Lessons

Writing

Punctuation

High-quality texts

Reading for Pleasure

Confidence

Enjoyment

Fluency

Wide recreational reading **expands pupils' knowledge** about the world and about language, as well as their understanding of **subject-specific** academic and technical **vocabulary**.

Such knowledge eases their access to the whole curriculum. Higher performance in mathematics has also been found.

Pupils who read regularly report **heightened levels of social and emotional wellbeing**.

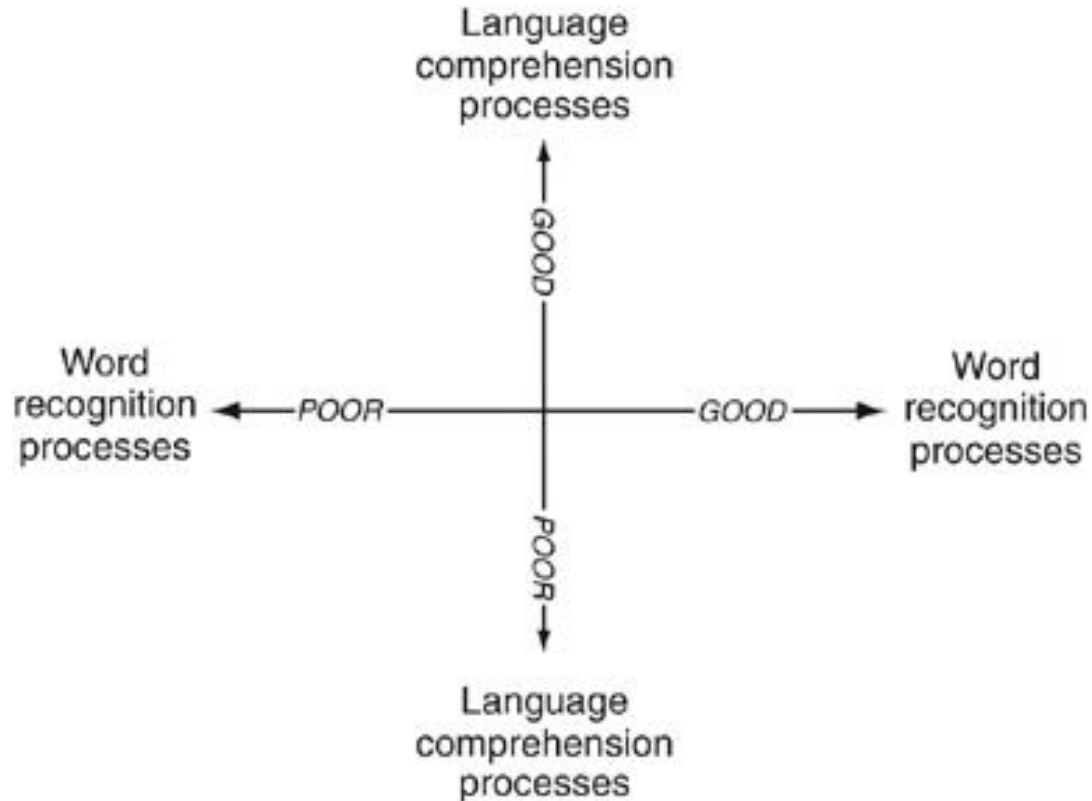
For many, reading is a **form of relaxation**, a place to escape everyday challenges, a source of entertainment.

Reading allows readers to **adopt new perspectives**, develop empathy and become more socially conscious.

**Why is
Reading for
Pleasure
important?**



Simple View of Reading



What does this mean for your child?

Word Recognition

Phonological Awareness

Syllables, phonemes, etc.

Decoding

alphabetic principle, letter-sound correspondence

Sight Recognition

familiar words

THE *Daily*
ALPHABET



Language Comprehension

Background Knowledge

Vocabulary

Language Structures

Verbal Reasoning

Literacy Knowledge

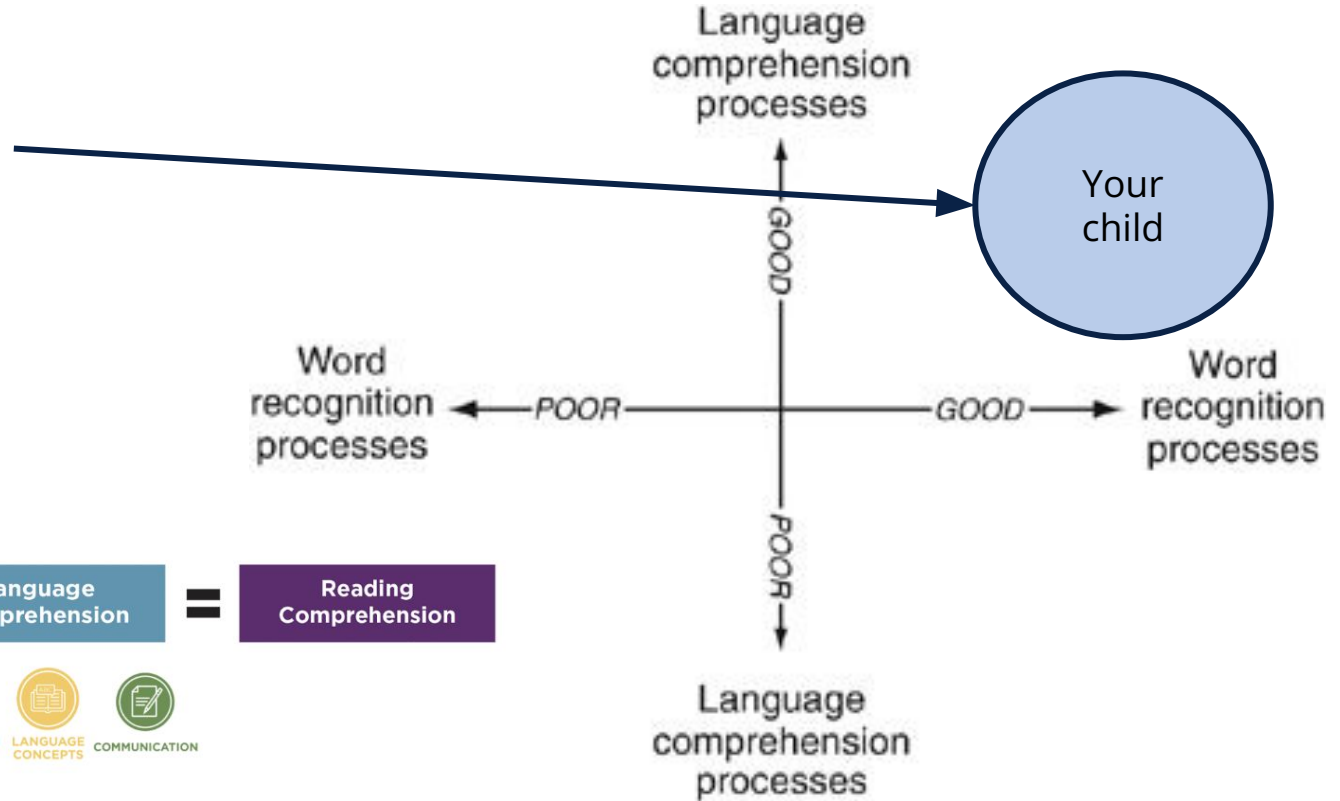
THE *Daily*
ALPHABET

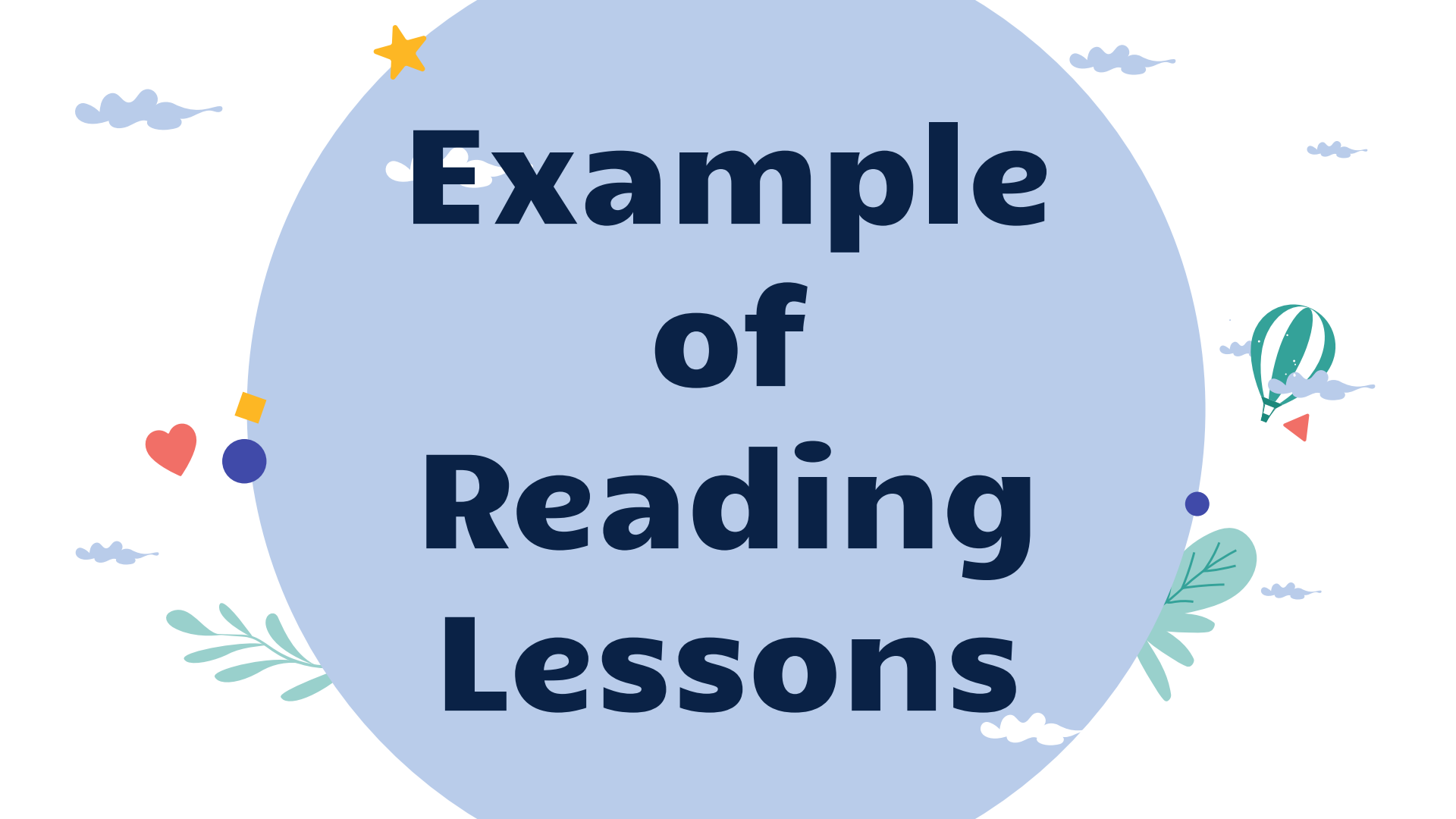


Skilled Reading

Simple View of Reading

We aim for children to be here





Example of Reading Lessons

Undefeated - Year 4 Text

Session 1 – Creating Context (2c)

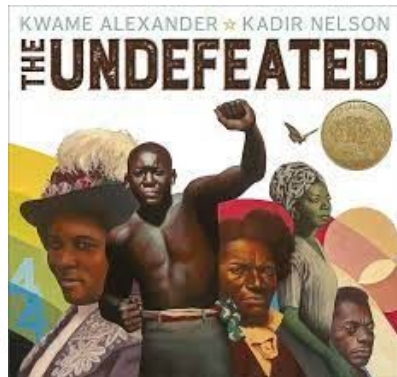
Words to define before reading: segregation, civil war, racism, discrimination, slavery

At this point, it is important to give children a general sense of black history in America as the poem is a celebration of the defiance and brilliance of black individuals and black culture in the face of centuries of racism and brutality. However, broad strokes are all that is needed for this first sessions as we will be going into more detail as the unit continues.

What do children know already about black history in America? Which famous black Americans can children name through history? Look at the pictures in *Creating Context* at the back of this unit and discuss what events the pictures depict. Also discuss the map and talk briefly about the fact that the Northern Union States and Southern Confederate States of America went to war with each other on the issue of slavery. This was the American Civil War (1861 – 1865). Even though the Union States, which were anti-slavery, won the war, a policy of segregation continued in many Southern States well after the war had ended.

What do children know about segregation in American history? Look at some of the pictures in *Creating Contexts* and discussed the areas of society which were segregated and how this segregation was designed to violently oppress the black population. Explain that during the 50s/60s, many people went on marches to protest segregation. Songs which could be sung on a march become popular and these were known as “protest songs”.

Children stick the pictures from *Creating Contexts* in their books and write captions for them on what they know already. Children can also draft questions that they may have for further research.

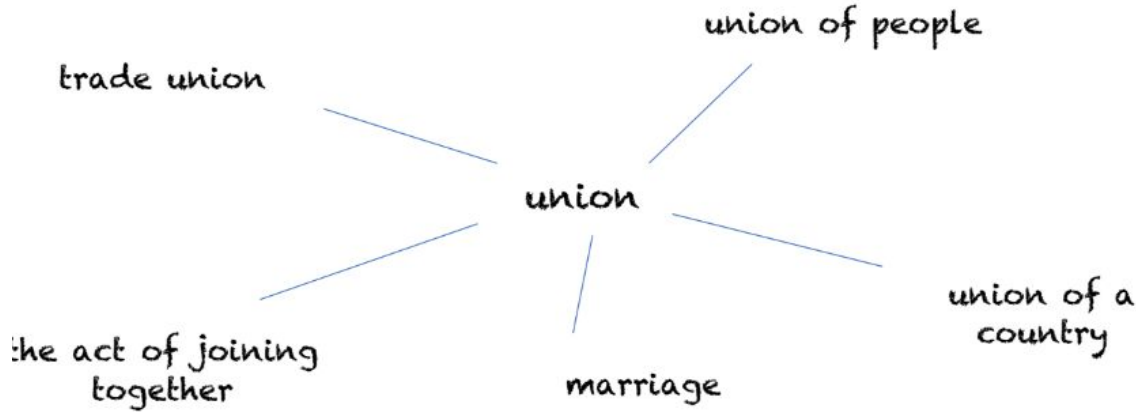


Undeclared - Year 4 Text

Session 2 – A Marching Song (2a, 2d)

Give children a copy of the lyrics to the song *We Shall Not be Moved* sung by Mavis Staples from the album *We'll Never Turn Back* and explain that this was a popular protest song during the Civil Rights Movement. Listen to the song once through.

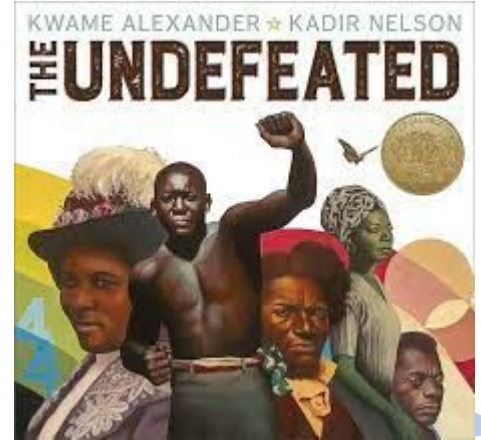
What does the word union mean? How many different meanings does it have? Support children to research this and draw a spider diagram, e.g.



The word **union** is mentioned twice in the song. What do you think the word **union** means in this context? Please note that if you are also teaching *Tar Beach* by Faith Ringgold then exploring the concept of trade unions will be useful.

Listen to the song again and answer the following questions:

Which word best describes the author's attitude?



Undefeated - Year 4 Text

Session 3 – Poem Predictions (2e)

Ask children what they know about poetry. *Do they know any poems? How are poems different to other genres? How are they similar to music?* Discuss with children what tools poets use to create different effects. This usually involves repetition, personification, metaphor, similes, rhyme and rhythm (the musical beat of a poem). Put these words on the board and see if children can define any of them. Refer to these as you continue through the poem in order to deepen children's understanding.

Explain we will be reading a poem which uses rhythm and repetition heavily to create a sense of meaning. Introduce the book/poem *The Undefeated* and study the front and back cover. Do the children recognise any of the individuals depicted? Read the blurb.

*What does **undefeated** mean and why do you think the author choose this title?*

What impressions do Kadir Nelson's painting give you about these individuals?

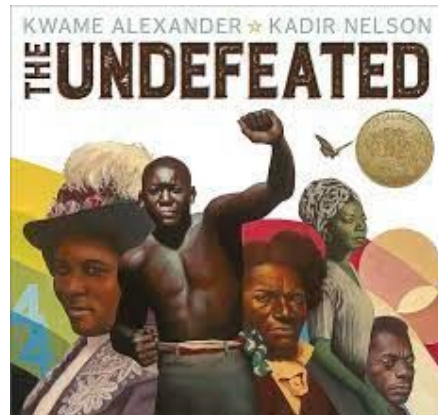
Why are their pictures of birds and a butterfly on the cover?

What does the 4/4 stand for?

What do you think this poem will be about?

What do you think will be the attitude of the poet?

What do you think this poem will set out to do?

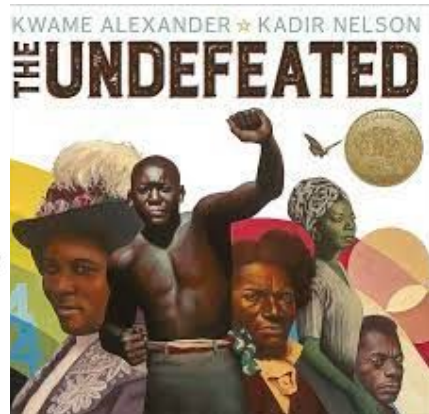


Undefeated - Year 4 Text

Session 4 - Music and Poetry (2a, 2f)

Perform the poem for children, paying attention to the words and phrases which are in bold and italicised. Read the poem once through to experience and then give children the chance to read through themselves.

Can you collect any words that use the prefix *un-*? What job does the prefix *un-* do? Create a list of all these words and work out the meaning from the context. Use a dictionary to double check.



Listen to Kwame Alexander reading also and discuss how he performs the poem.

Why does he leave long pauses at certain points and what effect does this have on the reader?

Why are some of the words in bold? How does this affect his performance?

Why are some sentences and phrases in italics?

Give groups of children the cards from **Karaoke Poets** and give them time to find a way they would best want to perform the poem. They can combine cards to create a layered performance. Record performances and give feedback.

Undefeated - Year 4 Text

Session 5 – The Unforgettable (2b, 2f, 2g)

Words to define before reading: superiority, gold medallist

Read the first stanza of the poem up to and including the line "...of possibility."

What does the word **unforgettable** mean?

Why does the author use the phrase **hurdled history**?

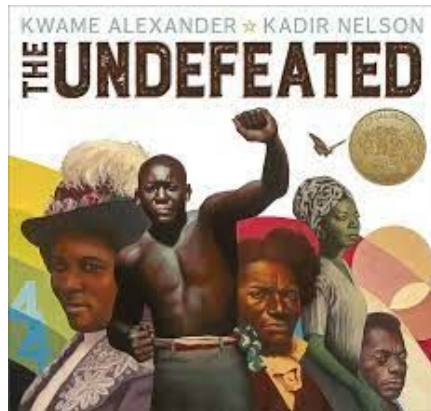
What does the phrase '**opened a world of possible**' mean?

The author uses alliteration in the first stanza with the words **swift and sweet** and **hurdled history**. What effect does this have on the reader?

Look at the illustration. The bottom half of Jesse Owens is in shadow and the top half is in light. Why do you think the illustrator decided to do this?

Turn to the Jesse Owens biography at the back. Why is he such an important figure in history?

Extension: Research more about Jesse Owens. Can you find any videos online of him?



Book Look





**How can you
support
reading?**

- Give your child access to plenty of texts on many different topics and by a wide range of authors who write in different styles, e.g. Roald Dahl, Michael Morpurgo to Anthony Horowitz, non-fiction books and fiction books.
- Encourage discussion with your child when pronouncing new words if their reasonable attempt does not sound correct.
- Broaden the vocabulary you use when speaking to your child and be prepared to clarify the meaning of a wider range of words, modelling them within sentences.
- Encourage your child to read silently to themselves but check their understanding of what they have read after doing so.
- Read difficult texts to your child and allow them the chance to listen and ask questions.



Reading Den/
Comfy area



Vocabulary
Counter



Read together

Audio books

Join the
library

Reading Activities

Discuss new words/
feelings/ emotions

Choose books
together

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

Join book swaps/
create book swaps

National Geographic Kids/
Newsround Website/ First
News/ Phoenix Comics (£1 for
first 6 comics - more after that)

home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/encouraging-boys-to-read/

Renaissance HomeMaestro Label Desi...Team Drives - Googl...ClassroomInbox - j.burr@oldca...Bi-Weekly Mentor R...The Literary Curricul...Label MakerSOLE | Morning Cha...StartSOLE

HomeEnglishReadingMathsAt schoolBookshopActivitiesBlog

Encouraging boys to read

All parents want to support their child's early education. As the parent of a boy, it can be a worry to read headlines suggesting that boys often underachieve, especially with reading. Fortunately, there are lots of ways you can help.

Read (or [watch](#)) Gary Wilson give his expert advice on how to raise boys' achievement by encouraging them to read.

What do we know about boys and reading?

Of course, all children are different, and no two boys are going to be interested in exactly the same things. The best way to find out what

home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/relevant-readers/

Renaissance HomeMaestro Label Desi...Team Drives - Googl...ClassroomInbox - j.burr@oldca...Bi-Weekly Mentor R...The Literary Curricul...Label MakerSOLE | Morning Cha...StartSOLE

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Reluctant readers

From 'thinking outside the bookbag' to reading for a purpose, children's author and mum of three Isabel Thomas shares some great advice on helping reluctant readers get excited about books.

You can spot a reluctant reader by putting a book in their hands. Five minutes later they'll be gazing out of the window, wriggling on the floor, or building an intricate paperback tower – anything but reading the words on the page.

It's not that they struggle to read (see our [struggling readers](#) page for children who find reading difficult). And it's not that they can't sit still – give my sons a screen, and they'll demonstrate Olympian levels of concentration and stamina. Reluctant readers have the skills needed to devour books, but don't – or won't – use them.

Does it matter? There's more to life than books, and children can also learn by climbing trees, making junk models, or playing sports. But research consistently shows that children who read for pleasure do better at school, and we all want to give our children the best chance of unlocking adventures and opportunities in the future.

With that in mind, here are some great ways to encourage your sons to feel excited about books:

1. Read for pleasure

Levels and book bands are useful tools, but it's most important to focus on making reading fun and exciting. To avoid making reading feel like a chore or a race, I learned to be interested and impressed by whatever my sons are reading.

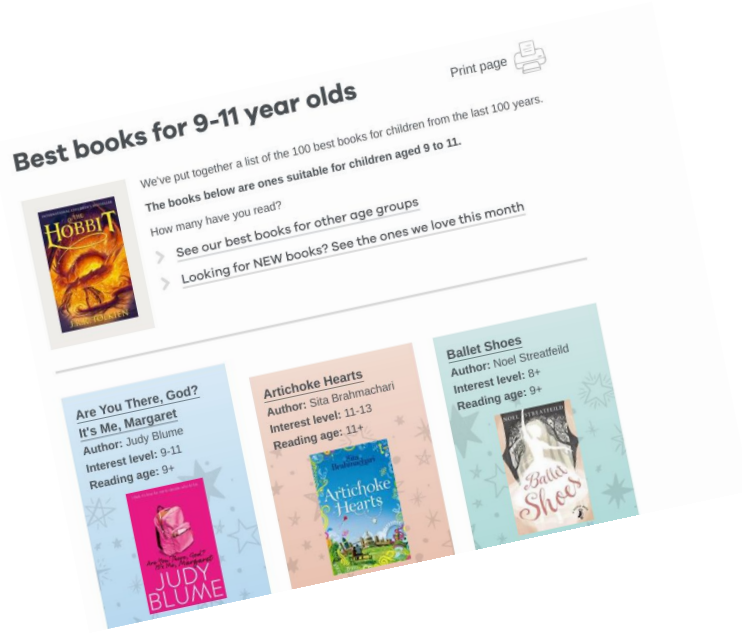
- Blog: [Carry on reading aloud: the benefits of sharing books with older children](#)
- Blog: [Picture books for older readers](#)
- Blog: [Great books to get boys reading](#)

For most children, reading for pleasure starts with snuggly bedtime stories. There's no need to stop this daily ritual once children can read

Phonics and word reading
Comprehension
Common reading issues
Struggling readers
Reluctant readers
Encouraging boys to read
Reading for pleasure
Reading schemes and Levels
Free eBook library: 100s of eBooks to practise reading

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-books-6-8/>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-books-9-11/>





**Any
questions?**