



English - Reading

In Year 5, children become increasingly independent and reflective readers. They tackle a wide range of texts – from classic and modern fiction to poetry, plays, and non-fiction – linked to our topics: Explosions and Rumbles, From Farming to Machines, and Inventors and Storytellers. They learn to compare themes and styles across texts, analyse language choices, and discuss how authors influence their readers.

We teach all children to:

- Read with fluency, expression, and understanding.
- Infer meaning and make connections within and across texts.
- Discuss how authors use language, structure, and tone for effect.
- Develop independence, curiosity, and enjoyment through reading.

Area of Study	Year 5
Word Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read most words effortlessly, using knowledge of root words, prefixes, and suffixes.• Apply growing vocabulary knowledge to understand new and challenging texts.• Use context to infer the meaning of unfamiliar words.
Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read with confidence, phrasing, and expression.• Adjust tone and pace for different purposes and audiences.• Read and discuss increasingly complex texts with stamina.
Comprehension Retrieval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify key information, summarising main ideas across paragraphs.• Use precise evidence from the text to justify answers.• Compare details and viewpoints from different sections of a text.
Comprehension - Inference	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make detailed inferences about characters, motives, and settings.• Explain how evidence supports their understanding.• Discuss implied meanings and author choices.
Comprehension - Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyse how language contributes to meaning and atmosphere.• Identify figurative language and explore its effect on the reader.• Discuss how authors use formal and informal language for different purposes.
Comprehension - Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in discussions, building on and challenging others' ideas politely.• Compare and contrast texts by theme, author, or genre.• Express personal preferences with evidence and reasoning.
Comprehension - Text Structure & Genre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify key structural features of texts (e.g., flashbacks, cause/effect).• Compare organisation and layout across fiction and non-fiction.• Recognise the features of persuasive, explanatory, and narrative writing.



Year 5

How can I help my child at home?

Encourage Independent Reading

- Set aside regular reading time each day.
- Let them choose books that genuinely interest them – fiction, biography, or fact.
- Praise perseverance with longer or more challenging texts.



Talk About What They Read

- Ask questions like “How do you know that?” or “What makes you think the author chose that word?”
- Encourage them to explain their reasoning and share personal reactions.

Explore Vocabulary and Language

- Discuss powerful phrases and imagery together.
- Encourage them to use dictionaries or online tools to deepen understanding.



Celebrate Reading Confidence

- Show interest in what they’re reading.
- Praise curiosity, insight, and thoughtful discussion.
- Help them see that reading is the key to learning – and enjoyment.

Widen Reading Choices

- Read newspapers, articles, and websites about current topics.
- Explore books from different cultures and historical periods.
- Share poetry or plays to build rhythm and expression.

