

# PRESIDENT KENNEDY SCHOOL BUILDING STRONGER READERS



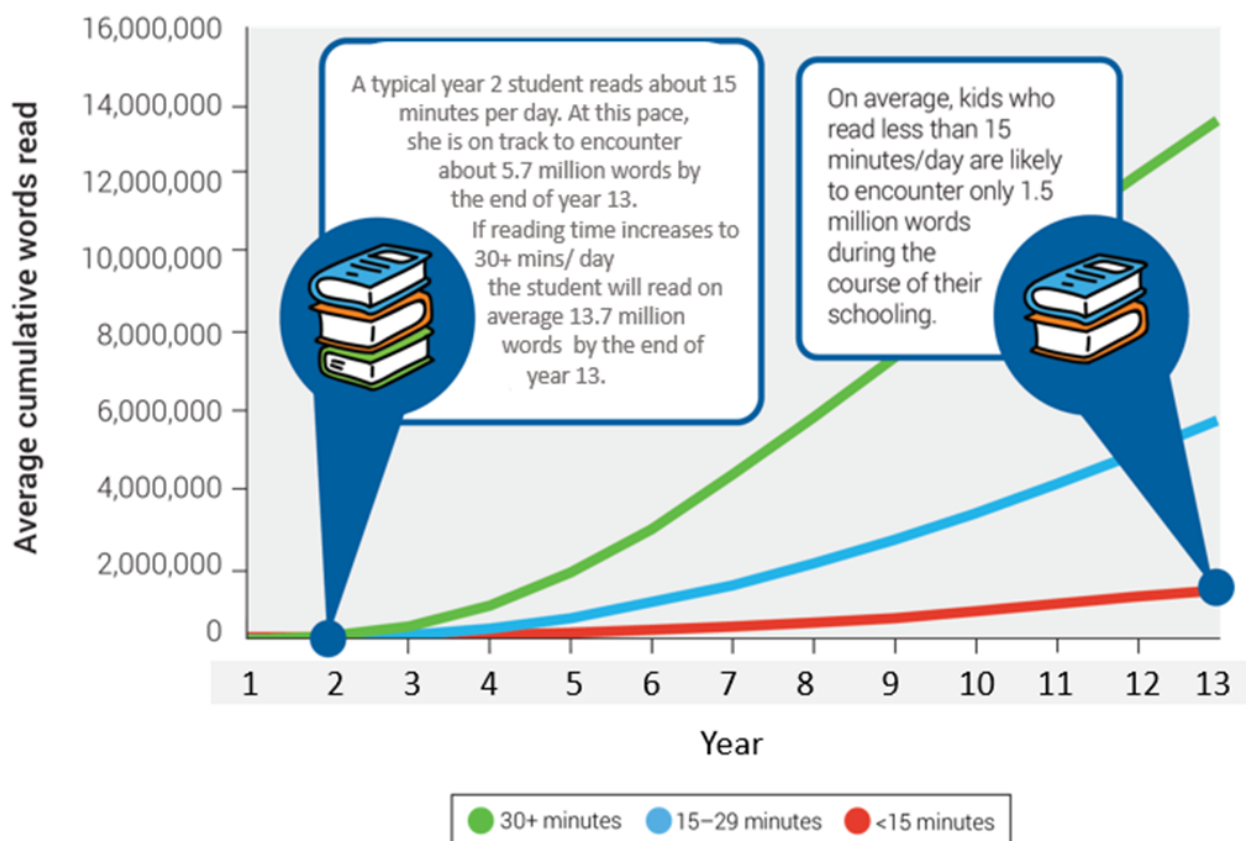
## Why is reading so important?

- Reading increases intellect – FACT
- Students who enjoy reading are more academically successful – FACT
- Reading increases vocabulary – FACT
- Students who read more produce better pieces of writing – FACT
- Reading improves spelling – FACT

## Why should students read at home?

15 minutes reading outside of school seems to be the “magic number” at which students start seeing substantial positive gains in reading achievement; students who read just over a half-hour to an hour per day see the greatest gains of all.

### Vocabulary exposure increases with daily reading time



# Five ways reading more makes you an excellent employee

## 1. You're more empathetic

Studies by various institutions, including Kingston University in London, show that reading — particularly reading literary fiction — can make readers more empathetic. By reading, appreciating and understanding the complex emotions of others, you will be better able to appreciate the emotions of others and be more considerate and tactful. This is a highly attractive quality in a potential employee.

## 2. Your vocabulary is richer

This may be taken for granted, but if you read regularly and read a wide variety of styles, you will learn new words and you will have the confidence to use them. Again, strong communication skills and the ability to voice your thoughts in an effective way is a crucial tool for any potential employee to have under their belt.

## 3. You'll have stronger critical thinking skills




Often, reading will ask you to question and to think logically, to analyse and balance information. An employer will want people on their team who are able to think logically and to review information and situations calmly and methodically.

## 4. Your writing skills will improve

Not only will you be able to speak more confidently and fluently, but your writing skills will improve too. You'll have a better understanding of good sentence structure and the rhythm of words. You'll have a clearer idea of how to write persuasively, and how to get your point across. Employers will look for employees who can both speak and write effectively because you will be representing their brand.

## 5. You'll be more creative

It sounds obvious, but if you read then you are becoming a more creative person. You are encouraging your brain to imagine the unimaginable. Creative employees are highly coveted by employers because they can think outside of the box, and inject passion and excitement into otherwise mundane tasks.

WHY SHOULD STUDENTS READ AT HOME?		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
READING IMPROVES YOUR EMPLOYABILITY		

# How can I as a parent/carers support with reading at home?

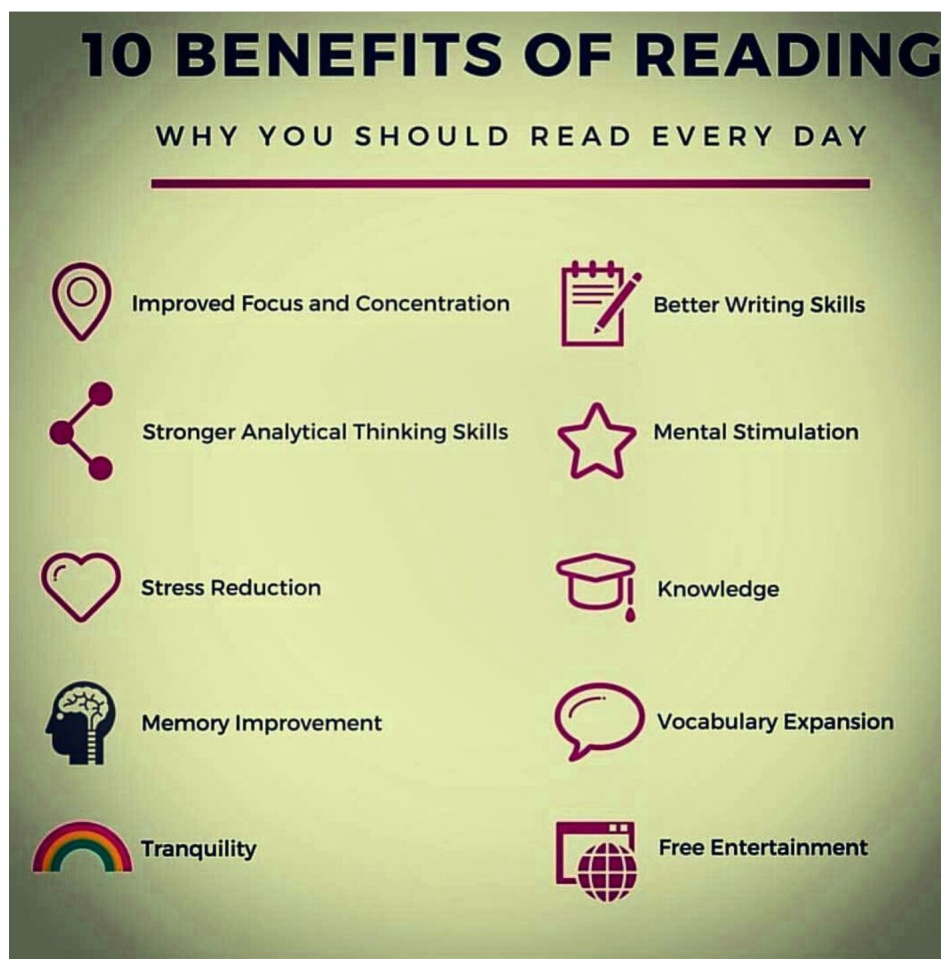
Here are a few suggestions on how you can help support reading at home:

1. **Support your child signing up to and using Sora.** Sora is our school's online library and is quick and easy to use. Your child has had training on how to use this in school, but there is a support guide which you can use to understand Sora on the reading section of the school website.
2. **Always have books around the home.** That way, you are always ready to encourage a 15 minute reading session.
3. **Join your local library.** This will help with having books around the house-joining a local library will allow you to have access to hundreds of books, as well as DVDs and computer games.
4. **Encourage your child to read about something they are interested in.** it doesn't matter if it is fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comic-books.
5. **All reading is good!** Don't rule out comic books, graphic novels, magazines- reading is reading and it is all worthwhile.
6. **Ask questions.** To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as they read.
7. **Read whenever you get the chance.** Have a book or magazine with you for any time your child has to wait, like at the doctor's or the dentist.
8. **Read favourites again and again.** Encourage your child to re-read the books they have enjoyed. Re-reading helps to build fluency and confidence.
9. **Online books.** E-books can provide a different way to engage with reading; some people may feel more comfortable with a digital device than a physical book. Many e-books are available for free and can be downloaded easily onto to mobile phones and tablets. There are many books available on Sora, our new online library!
10. **Encourage your child to listen to audiobooks.** Research shows that listening to audiobooks still helps children to learn new vocabulary and to develop their empathy skills. We also have a range of audiobooks on our online library, Sora.

# Reading Questions

Discussions around what your child is reading are extremely valuable. They not only help promote a positive culture around reading, they also develop your child's ability to thoroughly understand what they have read. To help with these discussions, below is a list of questions that you may wish to ask them:

1. What happened in what you have just read?
2. Tell me four things about the main character .
3. Do you think your character's behaviour is going to change?
4. Do you like your main character?
5. Where is your book set?
6. What have you learnt from what you have just read?
7. Which words didn't you understand? How did you work them out?
8. What do you think will happen next?
9. What emotions do you think the writer wants you to feel? What makes you think this?
10. What has been the most interesting thing in your book so far?





# Local Libraries



**Keresley Library**

Bennetts Road, Coventry



**Holbrooks Library**

Holbrook Lane, Coventry



**Jubilee Crescent Library**

Jubilee Crescent Community  
Centre,  
Jubilee Crescent, Coventry



**Foleshill Library**

Broad Street, Coventry