



Reading is fun, inspiring, comforting, challenging and an essential tool of communication.

In this booklet the children, parents and teachers of the schools in the Frome Community Learning Partnership share some

of their ideas and thoughts on how to help your children take this trip of discovery and break into the adventure of words.



MAKE { READING } Enjoyable

“ Set aside a quiet time with no distractions. Ten to fifteen minutes is usually long enough. Try not to put pressure on and do keep reading to your child. I found that as I read to Zoë and

Paul I was growing their vocabulary and giving them an understanding of how to say and use words ”

– **Jennifer, parent,**
Selwood Middle School Academy.

Maintain **The** **Flow**



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“ I learnt not to say straight away if Charlie got it wrong. Sometimes I would encourage him to have another go, but sometimes I just said the word, so that we could keep the story going. ”

– **David, Parent,**
Rode First School.

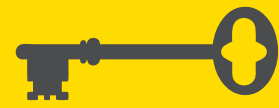
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Be

Positive

“ When Mrs Foster said “well done”, it did help, because sometimes I didn’t know if I was right. She also pointed to words too because sometimes I lost my place when I looked at the pictures! ”

– **Toby, pupil**
Trinity First school.



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SUCCESS IS KEY



“ Try not to read books that are too difficult. A little challenge is good, but too much can mean that children may lose the sense of what they are reading and, therefore, the enjoyment of reading can be lost. If your child wants to tackle a harder book, try choosing a story or topic that is familiar

to them e.g. fairy tales, films they have seen, non fiction subjects in which they know some of the trickier vocabulary. You could also try sharing the reading - you read a section and then your child reads a few pages. ”

– **Caroline White,**
Teacher Berkley First school.

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VISIT THE

LIBRARY

“ Encourage your child to use the library. Do ask the librarian for ideas and find out about books that other children are enjoying. Read some of the books yourself and let them see you read. This gives you things to talk about and helps you find out about great books

together. Most libraries do a Reading Challenge every summer too. ”

– **Wendy, Librarian**
Frome Library

Communicate

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“Your child will probably have a reading diary from school; use this to record your child’s successes and let teachers and support staff know things that go well at home e.g. a long or unfamiliar word being read correctly, good expression being used, reading tricky words by sight. Spend time talking about what has been read; including the pictures, the characters, predict how they think the story will end, discuss their favourite part. You can then see how well they have understood the text and you will help

them to develop good comprehension skills.

Don’t be afraid to ask your child’s teacher/s about ways in which you can help at home. Schools teach phonics which use letter sounds to make words, your child’s teacher/s may already deliver phonics/ reading sessions for parents and if not they may be prepared to do so for all the parents in your child’s class.”

– **Lara Tatam, Head Teacher** Mells First School



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“ Reading opens doors in the mind and in the real world. It develops imagination, ideas, confidence and communication. Students who read often and independently have better vocabularies and can write more persuasively and accurately. This leads to better academic success. ”

– **Fran Matthews**
Head of English
Frome Community College

“ I don’t always want to read, but I know that if I leave it too long it’s hard to get going. I don’t read to mum at weekends but we do 3 pages every school day. ”

– **Kelly Vallis** First school.

Talk About THE BOOKS

“ Reading is more than just saying words; it’s about being able to understand ideas, thoughts and people. Talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, and their favourite part. This helps

all the way through their education, even when they are at College. Do use the pictures to help figure out words and talk about what you can guess is coming up next from the pictures. ”

– **Cathy Clack, Teacher**
Christ Church first School.



Variety **is** IMPORTANT { / ” ; : \ ()

“ Read anything and everything, picture books, comics, magazines, newspapers, poems, and information books. I really struggled to get Kian to just sit down and read, we just ended up getting cross with each other. So I tried turning down the sound on his x-box game, so that

he read the on-screen instructions. We also played top trumps, read road signs, and shop names, or he would help with the cooking at home reading food labels and recipes; it all helped.”

– **Jo, Parent**
Oakfield Middle School
Academy

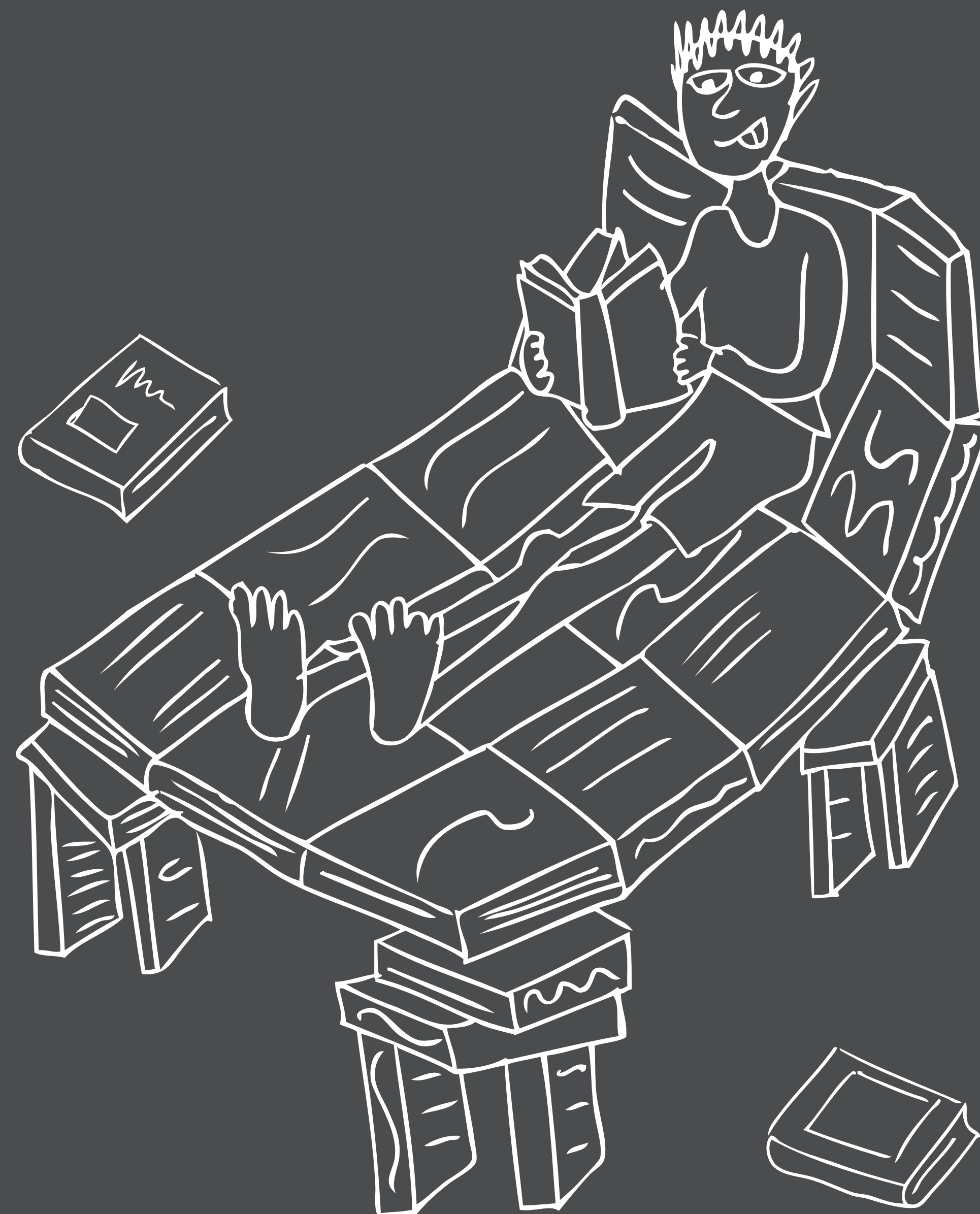


Illustration by: Louis Walker