

DISCUSSING BOOKS AND DEVELOPING ORACY



Choose great texts to promote discussion and develop pupils' oracy skills. Discussing and sharing books develops pupils' love of reading. Here are some prompts for developing discussions and conversations about books.

EARLY YEARS

Choose a suitable book. Then read it with the class. Stop to discuss pages along the way.

Try using the **ShREC** approach to develop conversations:

Share Intention - Be at the level of the children to see what they are interested in.

Respond - Follow the lead set by the children and respond to their communications, ideas and interests. You could make a brief comment on what they can see, hear or feel.

Expand - Repeat what the child says and add more words to the sentence.

Conversation - Have extended back and forth interactions. Give children time to listen, process and reply.

KEY STAGE 1

- Read the book, stop to discuss pages, take the pupils lead on pace
- Listen attentively to their responses – take their lead
- Validate their verbal and non-verbal responses
- Ask open questions
- Repeat, rephrase and expand what the children say to extend their vocabulary and develop their oral language
- Connect the text to previous events or ideas
- Uses questions and comments to encourage back and forth conversations
- Encourage talk partners to share responses
- Provide prompts:

I have noticed...
I feel...

I like...
I don't like...

What does...?
Why do...?
Is it...?

DISCUSSING BOOKS AND DEVELOPING ORACY



KEY STAGE 2

- **Read the text, stopping at relevant points to discuss the content**
- **Eliciting pupils' responses through open ended questioning:**
 - Tell me what you thought/ felt about
 - What came into your mind when you read...
 - Have you come across anything like this before?
- **Encourage pupils to extend their initial responses:**
 - Tell me more about...
 - What led you to think that?
 - Can you extend that idea a bit for us?
- **Encourage pupils' critique**
 - Do you agree?
 - Did anyone have a different response to that picture, story, paragraph, word
- **Encourage pupils to discuss with a partner or small group:**
 - Support with sentence stems for oral discussion:

To share your opinion:

- I think that... because...
- I agree with (name) because...
- What if...

To disagree with someone else's idea:

- I see what you mean, but do you think that... instead?
- I think it might because...
- I'm not sure I agree because...

To help someone else get involved in the discussion:

- What do you think?
- Do you have any ideas about this?
- ... hasn't had chance to speak yet. Do you want to add anything?