

~ Let's Chat ~  
'Reluctant'  
Readers



# BE CURIOUS

WHY are they seemingly reluctant?

Questions to consider to explore the big Q:

- Do they have reading role models?
- Do they have secure decoding skills?
- Are there potential factors that hinder comprehension - fluency? background knowledge? life experience?
- Do they have other more 'quick fix' distractions - phone/computer games etc?
- What previous experiences of reading have they had that might make it seem

# BE THEIR READING ROLE MODELS

- If children do not have reading role models at home then consider how we can provide these models in school.
- With older children, sharing significant research around the benefits of reading may help.
- Take an interest in them as readers, recommend books and support them to make their own text choices. Persevere!
- Facilitate access to the school or community library
- Get them to help you choose the next class reader.

# DO THEY HAVE SECURE DECODING SKILLS?



- In my opinion, one of the biggest barriers to reading is children who have not had enough practice at building decoding and fluency skills and as a result they lack confidence.

To combat this we can:

- Routinely check and teach decoding skills into KS2 as well as discussing vocabulary.
- Use high interest lower reading level texts such as those published by Barrington Stoke to support readers to become more confident
- Whilst older children are supported to build their phonics and decoding skills, reading alongside an audio book can help them access the texts they want to whilst building familiarity with new words.



# ARE THERE FACTORS THAT HINDER COMPREHENSION?

- Do they lack the background knowledge to access texts?
- Would they benefit from creating a pic collage to help visualise the setting or having a chat with an adult to support their knowledge.
- Could they be lent a dictionary or thesaurus to support their understanding of and access to vocabulary.
- Do they need a targeted intervention to support their inference skills?

# GETTING PAST A COMPUTER GAME

This is a really tough one. Children used to screens want constant visuals and pace to hold their attention.

Here's a few things to try:

Graphic novels

Audio books

Non-fiction linked to their interests

Gaming/  
TV linked titles  
e.g. Marvel




← SWIPE →

# WHAT PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE HAVE THEY HAD OF READING?

Again there's so many factors to explore here:

- Has it been a struggle to learn to read?
- Has their only experience of books been the school reading scheme books that may not interest them?
- Have they ever chosen their own reading material or do they see it as something dictated to them? CHOICE IS KEY!
- How can we make reading more fun in the future? Audio/reading to younger children?

A cozy reading nook with bookshelves, beanbag chairs, and a plant. The room features a white wall with two shelves of books. The top shelf has books like 'YOU CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE', 'SPIDERMAN', and 'World Book Day'. The bottom shelf has 'ANTHONY BROWNE' and 'OMAR'. A green vine plant hangs from the top. In the foreground, there are grey corduroy beanbag chairs and a wicker basket with stuffed animals. A blue wall is visible in the background.

I'd love to know your thoughts and ideas on this.

DROP A COMMENT BELOW

