Little Wandle Foundations

BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR LANGUAGE, LITERACY AND LEARNING

Foundations for a Love of Reading

Parent workshop

Little Wandle Foundations

Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.

Emilie Buchwald

When do you read with your child?







Foundations for a Love of Reading

Our setting has chosen to use the **Little Wandle Foundations for a Love of Reading** programme to give every child the best possible start to their reading journey.

We use this approach in Nursery, so that children go into Reception loving books.



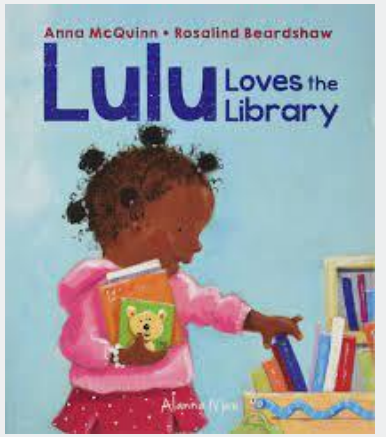
Foundations for a Love of Reading

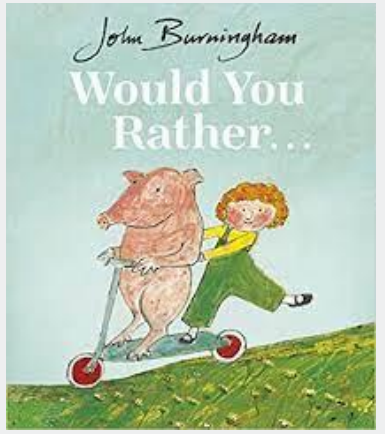
We plan our provision using the Little Wandle book plans.

These help children by:

- building familiarity by rereading stories
- developing vocabulary
- reading related poems and rhymes
- taking part in role-play linked to the text
- providing opportunities for sensory play.









Why read with your child at home?

The number of books your child has encountered by the age of six is a positive predictor of their reading ability two years later.

This benefit comes from:

- adults reading to children
- children enjoying books simply by looking at them and talking about them.

Parental involvement in the development of children's reading skill:
A five-year longitudinal study Sénéchal, M. and LeFevre, J. (2002)



Does it matter which language we use?

Use your home language.

It is better for your child to hear expert talk from you in your language.

Many studies tell us that it is the back-and-forth talk between adults and children when they are sharing books that makes the difference to children's language and comprehension.

This translates to better language and comprehension skills for your child in English.



Does it matter how we read with children?

Studies show that it is the enjoyment and chat that matter!

The more you chat together about the book and the things that interest your child, the more impact it has.

You don't even have to read the words – talking about the pictures is just as important.

If you can read the words, then use your voice to make them come alive. It will help your child understand the book even better.



Does the type of book matter?

Let your child be the boss of the books they choose. Their enjoyment is what really matters.

Comics, information books, magazines, story books, picture books, poems and leaflets are all great for sharing.

Catalogues are fun to share and talk about, too.



What if my child always wants to read the same book?

Repeated reading of books is really beneficial for children. It helps them memorise parts of the story, words and phrases, too.

Knowing a book or poem by heart is fun and powerful for children. They can ‘read’ the story with you or join in with individual words or phrases.

If you really want to mix it up, offer another book alongside the much-loved favourite!



Main takeaways

- Nursery is where we lay the **foundations** for a love of books.
- **Little Wandle Foundations for a Love of Reading** ensures that children are read to daily.
- You can help at home by:
  - talking lots to your child
  - reading aloud to them every day
  - singing songs and rhymes
  - playing some of our **Tuning into sounds** and **Rhyme time** games.

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A minute spent reading to your kids now will repay itself a million-fold later not only because they love you for reading to them, but also because, years later, when they're miles away, those quiet evenings when you were tucked in with them, everything quiet but the sound of the page-turns, will seem to you, I promise, sacred.

George Saunders