

Welcome to the Lockdown Library!



Parents

How can I help?

- Encourage your child to switch off devices half an hour before they go to bed and read instead. It is a habit, and they only need 20-30 minutes a night regularly. Start with shorter times if needed. It is proven that taking away the blue light ensures that your child gets better quality sleep - therefore allowing their brain to process the day's learning and ensure what they have learned is remembered.
- Use rewards to help motivate your child to read if they are reluctant, and praise and encourage them as they read.
- Talk to your child about your reading habits, or books you enjoyed at their age.
- Take advantage of all the amazing free reading resources online during the lockdown – see below.
- Read to your child – you would be surprised how much teenagers actually like being read to – even if you think they are too old for it. Studies have shown that reading aloud to children has many benefits!
- Let them listen to [audio books](#) as an alternative.
- Don't discourage them from reading non-fiction, [graphic novels](#), [comics](#) or magazines – everything helps. Similarly, don't comment on their choice of book even if you think it is too easy – get them reading first, and they are more likely to move onto more challenging reads later.
- [Ask them about their reading](#). Get them to read their favourite bit to you. Ask them questions about what they think will happen next. Borrow their books and read them and then discuss them. Create a mini Book Club with your family!
- Help them with reading remote learning texts by checking they understand the words, directing them to a dictionary to check unfamiliar words, getting them to read it to you or summarise it for you.
- Build in some quiet reading time into the day or after school – then chat about what they have read.
- Discuss the attached reading suggestions to see what genres are preferred.
- [A useful blog if your child struggles to read](#).

Free online Resources

- [Audible books for children](#).
- <http://www.researchify.co.uk/audiobooks.html> – includes 6 free children’s classics as PDF and word docs, with accompanying audio books: Alice in Wonderland, Wind in the Willows, The Railway Children, The Jungle Book, Peter Pan, Black Beauty
- 50,000+ free eBooks - [Manybooks](#)
- Free books from [Barrington Stoke](#). This publisher provides lots of Dyslexia friendly books.
- [Many online children’s e-books](#) including non –fiction.
- David Walliams reads his stories [here](#).
- A [huge selection of comics and graphic novels](#) and also [here](#).
- Free eBooks for teens - [goodreads.com](#).
- Some free classic stories and others on Kindle App (more options if you have Amazon Prime) - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/kindle-dbs/fd/kcp>
- [Free audiobooks for teens 13+](#).
- Tom Palmer, known for his hugely popular football fiction (sometimes linked to war) has multiple free reads on his site <https://tompalmer.co.uk/free-reads/>. He also has engaging and helpful videos to support creative writing: <https://tompalmer.co.uk/writing-tips/>. In addition, he has a YouTube channel where he reads aloud extracts and offers tips. Palmer’s new book, *After the War*, is about children who survived the Holocaust and who started a new life in the Lake District. It is well-researched, and he has multiple resources linked to Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January: <https://tompalmer.co.uk/holocaust-memorialday-resources-and-competition/>.
- The Oak National Academy has just started giving free access to a children’s book each week: <https://library.thenational.academy/>.
- [First News](#) is a weekly newspaper aimed at 7-14 year olds. It is currently offering free subscription over lockdown.
- Year 7: All students in Year 7 are subscribed to [Renaissance myON® Reader](#) so they are able to access our Accelerated Reader provision this year. Renaissance myON® Reader is a student-centered, personalized digital library that gives students access to more than 6,000 enhanced digital books.
- Year 7: Free eBook library for year 7 students - [Oxford Owl](#)

Other Reading Themed Resources

- www.toppsta.com – a website full of book recommendations, including videos and activity packs. There are over 55,000 books reviews – all by children! It also has daily collations of various events happening online:
<https://toppsta.com/blog/view/bookish-ideas-if-you're-self-isolating-with-the-kids>
- [British Library](#) resources – discovering children's books
- There are lots of great extracts, masterclass videos and recommended reading lists on the World Book Day site! The [World Book Day](#) site has also just started a 'Book Ideas Hub' with links and resources to encourage children (of all ages) to read, write and draw for pleasure.
<https://www.worldbookday.com/2020/03/book-ideas-hub-brilliant-stay-at-home-ideas-free-resources/>
- Harry Potter fans will love: <https://www.wizardingworld.com/collections/harry-potter-at-home>
- Authorfy has interactive resources, videos and activities to support children's reading and writing: <https://authorfy.com/about/> . These 10 minute videos, with challenges by acclaimed children's authors, are brilliant:
<https://authorfy.com/10minutechallenges/> . As are these Masterclasses (you can filter by age): <https://authorfy.com/masterclasses/> .
- This site encourages young people to keep a 'Lockdown Diary' to help with mental health and to bring some fun into these stressful times. You can select the appropriate age (early years- age 7; 8-12; and teen- YA) and then you will find videos by authors and educators talking to young people in a compassionate way and offering suggestions for their diaries.
<https://www.ourcoronadiary.com/how-to-join-in>.
- One unexpected advantage of the current situation is that literary festivals (which used to be expensive and involved travel) are now free and available to all. Recently, the Northern YA Literary Festival took place; young people can watch the recordings of interviews with fabulous authors for free:
<https://nyalitfest.wordpress.com/programme/> .
- Similarly, The Hay Festival had a wonderful series of talks (available for free via 'Hay Player') for young people of all ages:
<http://www.hayfestival.com/education>