



5 Tips to

Improve Your Child's Reading This Summer

At Yew Chung International School of Beijing, reading is nurtured and promoted due to its ability to develop students' language skills, enrich their vocabulary and stimulate cognitive skills, amongst other benefits. Parents are also encouraged to do the same with their children at home.

YCIS Beijing's Upper Primary Learning and Teaching Coordinator, Jane Martuneac Kang, a dedicated and experienced member of the School's Academic Leadership Team, here shares with us some important tips to help parents who would like to support and foster their children's reading interests and abilities in the comfort of their homes by following the practices below.



Read to your child.

Children who are read aloud to are more likely to turn into avid readers, as it promotes to them the joy of reading. Reading books aloud exposes your child to new and challenging vocabulary, vocabulary which we may not actually use as frequently in conversations. Try to make reading aloud a habit; each night before bed, read a few pages out of a book that you both enjoy!

Read with your child.

Allow time in your day for your child to read a book to you. Be near them, listen to them sound out the words and engage in discussions about it. Ask questions that take the comprehension below surface level. These often start with "how" and "why" and will help your child develop their inferential skills. Making reading a team effort can be highly motivating to your child and will certainly make the process a more fun part of each day!

Reread.

Encourage your child to read books more than one time. Each time a child rereads book, a new level of fluency and comprehension can be obtained. When you read to your child, don't

be afraid to choose a book that you've already read together. It can be comforting to read a familiar story and smile together again at your favourite parts.

Maintain a variety of different books.

Have a variety of text types available to your child to read. Provide your child with fiction books of many different genres: historical, mystery, adventure, classics, etc. In addition to this, it is a good idea to balance your child's

bookshelf with works of non-fiction as well. A different set of skills are utilised when we read non-fiction books. Exposure to both is very important to developing a well-rounded reader.

Stay positive and realistic.

Learning to read with understanding is a long process and for some children, it is longer and harder than others. Kind words of encouragement about how they are trying hard to sound out words or how they are thinking carefully about the meaning will help to keep your child engaged in this process. In addition, it is important to keep our expectations for our children realistic. Jumping to higher levels will only lead to eventual frustration and does not promote the development of key comprehension skills. Slow and steady is what we should be aiming for.

To learn more about ways in which YCIS Beijing promotes learning, scan the QR code and follow us on WeChat.

