

READING BUDDY CARDS



Project READ

Reading Everywhere Across Derbyshire

BE A GOOD READING BUDDY

Top tips...

Make eye contact
and remember
to smile.

Be reliable
and on time.

Be sensitive
and encouraging.

Use a welcoming
tone of voice.

Always start
and finish with
something
positive.

Use your initiative
- you don't always have to
talk about the book.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT BOOK WITH YOUR BUDDY

Start with a small range of books

1

Read the title and author.

2

Talk about the cover.

3

Read the back.

4

Flip through the book.

5

Open the book to any page.
Put one finger up for each word your Buddy does not know.

6

0-1: Too easy
2-3: Perfect choice
4: Give it a try
5: Too hard



FICTION: PROMPT QUESTIONS

Remember to check your
Buddy's understanding...

"Who are the characters
in the book?"

"Where is the
story set?"

"What do you think
is happening?"

"What did...
do/ask?"

"What happened
after/at...?"

"Do you know
what might
happen next?"



NON-FICTION: PROMPT QUESTIONS

**Remember to talk
to your Buddy...**

"What do you want
to find out?"

"What do you
already know about
this topic?"

"Shall we look at the
contents page first?"

"What did you find
interesting on this
page?"

"What else would
you like to know
about this topic?"



HELPING YOUR BUDDY ALONG

When your Buddy gets stuck on a word, give thinking time. If your Buddy still can't work it out, try these tips...

"Try breaking down the word into smaller sections."

"Read the whole line again."

Talk about what the word means. If you both don't know... go and find out!

Write down the words that your Buddy gets stuck on. Talk about them again.



BIG UP YOUR BUDDY

Things you could say...

"You're really improving!
Well done!"

"That word was
a hard one! I'm
impressed! You're
doing well!"

"Good question."

"Wow, you've
really understood
that!"



SO YOU'VE FINISHED READING FOR TODAY...NOW WHAT?

**Have a conversation with your Buddy.
Talk about these questions...**

"Are you enjoying our sessions?
Why? Why not?"

"Which is the best book/
comic/ poem we have
read together?"

"Do you think we
should recommend any of the books/
comics/ poems we've read to
other Buddies?"

"What would you
like to read next?"



GETTING EXCITED ABOUT READING

To be a reading role model you
can talk about...

...why you like
to read.

...what you are
reading at the
moment.

...books you have read
in the past.

...different kinds of reading -
books, comics, magazines
and websites.



HOW IS YOUR BUDDY REALLY DOING?

At the end of each session, think
about these questions...

Did your Buddy enjoy the session?

Is your Buddy reading
more outside of your
sessions together?

Is your Buddy becoming
more confident?

Is your Buddy's
reading improving?

What will you do in your
next session to make sure
that your Buddy keeps
improving?

