



## Why is sharing books and reading for pleasure so important?

Reading for pleasure is in decline: only 29% of 0-13s read for pleasure daily (down from 30% in 2017). Source: Children's Reading for Pleasure: Trends and Challenges, Egmont, 2019

The number of parents sharing stories with their children is also in steep decline: only 56% of 3-4-year-olds are read to daily or nearly every day (69% in 2013).

Fewer than 19% of 8-10-year-olds are read to daily or nearly every day (down from 25%). Source: Understanding the Children's Book Consumer Nielsen, 2018

In a bid to support this campaign and to promote the importance of sharing stories with children, we will be launching **Share a Million Stories** in school during our World Book Week celebrations. We will be encouraging the children to share as many stories as they can over the period of 5 weeks, collating class totals and recording our contributions on a live national totaliser. Further detail about **Share a Million Stories** will be sent home next term.

In the meantime, we are running a competition to get the children thinking about the benefits of sharing stories. We are asking children to complete the attached 'Share a Story Bubbles' activity, and return it to school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Prizes will be awarded during Book Week for the best, most thoughtful or interesting entries. For younger children, an adult can record their ideas if needed. Completed sheets should be handed to the school office or class teachers for collection. Don't forget to include your name!

### Other Book Week Activities

During the rest of the week, there will also be lots of other great ways for us to celebrate books and reading in school, including: Drop Everything and Read; reading with a teacher from a different class; sharing favourite books and joining in with book quizzes.

There will be a **Book Week Film Night** on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**. Further details about this to follow.

Please note that we will **NOT** be dressing up for World Book day this year because there are other dressing up events coming up soon.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Salter



# SHARE A STORY BUBBLES!

Why do YOU love sharing stories? Think about your favourite stories and who you enjoy sharing them with.

Write your answers in the bubbles below:



I like sharing stories because

I share stories with \_\_\_\_\_

My favourite story to share is

It's important to share stories because

My favourite character is

It's important to share stories because you make connections with other people. Reading is an infectious joy.

CRESSIDA COWELL,  
WATERSTONES CHILDREN'S LAUREATE