

Some ideas for getting started

YOUNGER CHILDREN

The Hat Trick *Terry Deary*

Topics like sport or warfare can get kids who don't like reading to pick up a book. You'll find a lot of these themes across our series. This example is a 9-12 novel but there are also titles in our Solo, Gr8reads and teen novel ranges – try browsing online with your child.

IA 9-12 RA 8



Fox Friend 4uread *Michael Morpurgo*

Our authors are the best in the business – Fox Friend is by former Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo. Really good authors know how to keep the reader turning pages. Try our 4u2read titles for less confident readers of primary-school age.

IA 9-12 RA 7



TRANSITION

Take Two *Jo Cotterill*

Girls are just as likely as boys to experience reading problems, although many people do not realise this. Barrington Stoke is working hard to produce books for girl readers – this one's from our Solo range for seriously struggling readers.

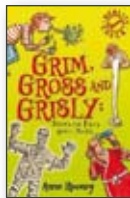
IA 10-14 RA 6.5



Grim, Gross and Grisly *Anne Rooney*

There's nothing worse for a struggling reader than a book that is too young. Self-esteem is important in overcoming difficulties, so high-low books are ideal – that's books with a higher interest age than reading age. Many boys prefer fact to fiction, so our Reality Check and FYI series may help engage them.

IA 10-14 RA 8



TEEN

Two Words *Tanya Landman*

Teenagers can be very aware of stigma if their books are 'babyish', so our Gr8reads titles are gritty and pack a punch. This title is very moving and will support less confident readers.

IA TEEN RA 7



Lord of the Mountain *James Lovegrove*

Most of our books are short so that children have a good chance of finishing them. Once they can cope with our reading age 8 series comfortably, this series offers longer novels at the same reading age as a bridge to reading 'proper' books.

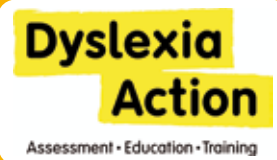
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Drop us a line or pick up the phone and we'll send you our A2 chart so you can see all of our titles and series at a glance.

Further Advice

The following organisations offer support and advice to parents and children coping with dyslexia:



Some children need a lot of help if they're ever going to learn to read. But what's the best way to help them? How can you get your child to read if he just doesn't like books? And what if you don't read much yourself? This book has the answers.



ISBN 9781842996713
£1.99

Quick Reads is a World Book Day initiative

"If I had a pound for every time somebody came in saying that they couldn't get their kids to read, well, I wouldn't need to teach swimming anymore. The aptly named Patience unpicks the mysteries of getting them to succeed, with extra tips from the likes of the afore-praised Stoppard, Charlie Higson and Adrian Chiles. Barrington Stoke are surely the hardest working publisher in show biz in getting youngsters reading." *Families on Line*

"How can you get your child reading if they can't, or won't, read? This is an accessible, friendly and valuable book for all parents of non-reading offspring." *The Scotsman*

Give us a ring or e-mail to discuss your needs.

Tel: 0131 225 4113

info@barringtonstoke.co.uk

You can also order books directly from our website.

www.barringtonstoke.co.uk



Advice on common issues parents face in getting their children to read, from dyslexia-specialist publisher Barrington Stoke.

Is reading a challenge or Mission Impossible?

"You have helped my son open a door which we thought was firmly bolted shut for years to come. Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

Barrington Stoke

“I can’t get my son off the computer or away from the TV long enough to read a book. He says books are boring.”



Many kids have short attention spans and love the instant gratification and excitement of Wiis, TV and so on. Try one of our novels on a topic your son likes, like football or martial arts. The thrilling writing will plunge him into the action, cliffhangers will keep him reading and the short length will give him a sense of achievement when he finishes.

“Our family is from Poland and English is our second language. Reading in English is tough!”



Our books support children learning English as we use simple sentence structures and lots of conversation, which helps develop their spoken language too. Try building up their stamina with the shorter Solos and 4u2read books first, then move on to the novels.

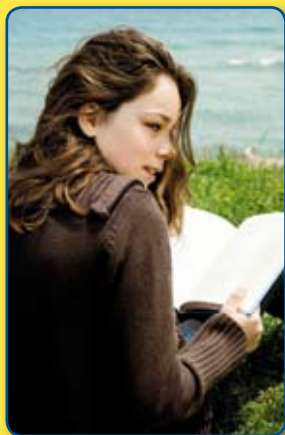
“My son can’t settle down long enough to read a book. He’s too hyper.”

Try one of our Solos, which are written to ‘hook’ readers, with gripping and fast-moving plots full of cliff-hangers and twists. Solos are short so children with concentration difficulties can have the satisfaction of finishing a book.

“Why does reading matter anyway? Especially fiction?”

Today experts talk about children’s ‘job’, which is learning at school. To succeed in this ‘job’ reading is an essential skill. It will remain essential through their lives – reading dosage on medicine bottles, for example, or filling in job applications.

Fiction is a really important way of teaching children to interact and empathise with others through experiencing imaginary situations and characters.



“It’s not that my daughter WON’T read. I think she CAN’T.”

Dyslexia is from the Greek meaning ‘problems with words’. It can affect a person’s ability to read and elements of their language and memory skills. Our books use a unique font with special spacing and cream paper to help dyslexic children to read smoothly. We also ask children to help us edit our books so that we can avoid confusing language and storylines.



Irlen Syndrome affects the way the brain processes visual information. It can make text seem to ‘jump about’ on white paper. Some people find coloured glasses or filters help. Our cream paper is also designed to minimise glare.

Eyesight problems can mean that children can’t see text properly. Again, our font is designed to help.

Disrupted Education e.g. when a child is ill for a long time or a family moves a lot, can mean that children miss important steps in learning to read. Our books have a lower reading age than interest age so that children can practise reading with books which aren’t babyish or patronising.

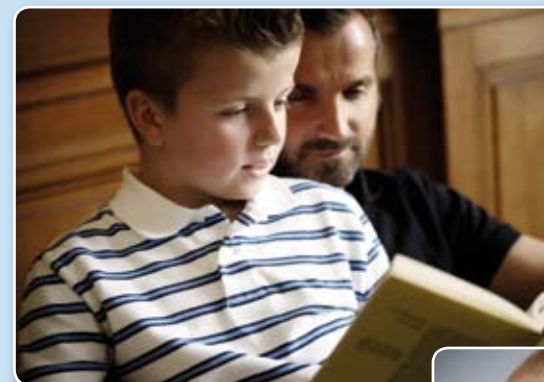


Some of our books look at other issues which may affect young people and their ability to learn, such as trauma, bullying or abuse. By reading these stories readers may be able to explore issues in a ‘safe’ context. Alternatively other, lighter, titles may offer an escape from a tough situation.



Asking for help

While **Barrington Stoke** aims to support emerging readers by minimising common obstacles to reading, children require some reading skill to tackle our books and those who cannot read at all will require specific support. It is vital that children experiencing difficulties receive proper help at school and that any underlying issues like dyslexia are recognised. It is very important that you ask your child’s school for help if you have concerns. Turn over for information on other organisations which may be able to support you.



Problems with reading are very common. It may help to remember...



- It’s not your fault or your child’s fault that reading is tough. Don’t be ashamed.
- Do remember that tackling any problem takes time and don’t give up – stay positive and offer lots of encouragement. Remember that ‘I don’t want to do it’ might mean ‘I’m afraid of failing.’
- Don’t be afraid to abandon a book if you really don’t like it.
- If your child finds more than 5 words per page tough, give an easier book a go.
- Enthusiasm is catching – make sure children in your household see adults reading and talking about books, and read aloud to children whenever you can.
- Try making a recording of you reading your child’s book, so he or she can listen to it again when you’re busy.
- Visit libraries and bookshops and browse until you find a book that appeals. Try exploring lots of books by the same author, on the same themes or in the same series.

