

# Reading for Pleasure



# What is Reading for Pleasure?

Broadly speaking, reading as:

- Choice
- Entertainment
- Leisure



# What Reading for Pleasure might look like:

Younger readers (non-independent):

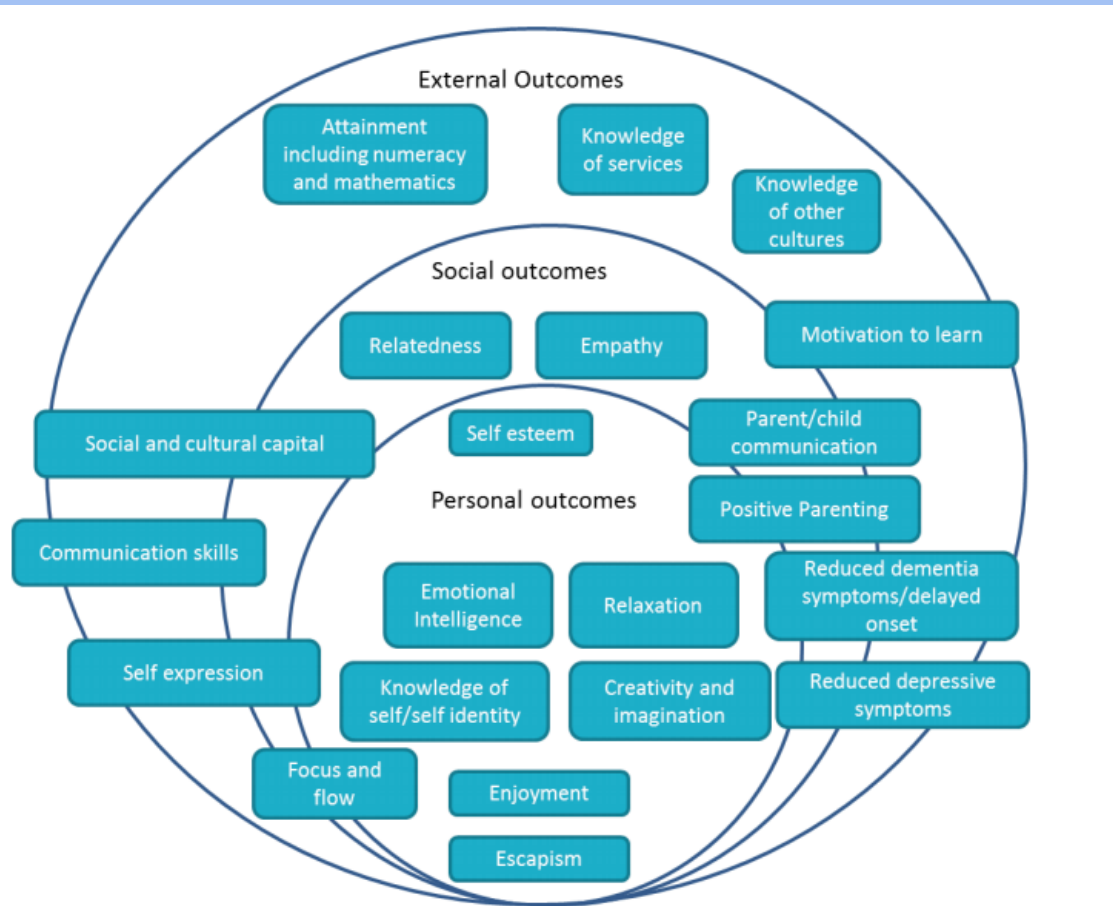
- Interacting/playing with books
- Looking at picture books
- Being read too e.g. bedtime stories, older siblings.
- Attempts at decoding



# Reading for Pleasure

There is a difference in reading performance equivalent to just over a year's schooling between young people who never read for enjoyment and those who read for up to 30 minutes per day - *Reading Agency Benefits of Reading for Pleasure and Empowerment 2015*

Reading for pleasure is more important for children's cognitive development than their parents' level of education and is a more powerful factor in life achievement than socio-economic background. - *Reading Agency Benefits of Reading for Pleasure and Empowerment 2015*



## Bedtime Stories

“While 86% of parents read to their five-year-old every night or every other night, by the time that child turns 11, the number has slipped to 38%....the frequency with which parents read to their children begins to tail off sharply at around the age of seven”

*Book Trust Time to Read 2017*

# Reading as part of a Bedtime Routine

A study by a University of Manchester psychologist has scientifically defined for the first time what constitutes a good bedtime routine for children between the ages of 2 and 8

- Brushing teeth before bed.
- Time consistency for going to bed.
- Book reading before bed.
- Avoiding food/drinks before bed.
- Avoiding use of electronic devices before bed.
- Calming activities with child before bed including bath, shower, and talking.

University of Manchester  
(published by PLOS One), 2021

# Reading and Empathy

Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while.

Malorie Blackman



## What this work tells us

### 2020 Survey Insights

#### Key Findings and Reflecting on Content

**5875** children's picturebooks, fiction and non-fiction titles were published in the UK in 2020.

Of these **879** featured characters of colour.

**15%** of the children's picturebooks, fiction and non-fiction titles published in 2020 featured characters of colour, compared to 10% in 2019, 7% in 2018 and 4% in 2017.

The continued positive trend in inclusive and representative output makes this a really exciting time in children's literature.



**15%** of Children's Books Published featured Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic characters

© CLPE

# There is a book for everyone out there...

Reading for Pleasure Facebook Group

Instagrams accounts

Literacy Trust

CLPE

Griffin Books and Waterstones



I want my next book to...

...take me on an adventure



...be newly published



...be by one of

our Guided Reading authors



# Pitstop



What should my child be reading?/What is my child reading? (What to Google)

	Ages	Features
Picture books	all	Illustration focused, shared reading
Early readers	6+	accessible to newly-independent readers
Chapter books	7+	'young in theme', longer in length, accessible
Middle Grade	8-11	written for independent readers, thematically more advanced
Young Adult	12+	emotionally mature, independent

# Hay-on-Wye and Book Festivals



# Adult Readers

Show children that reading is a worthwhile activity:

- Be caught reading!
- Talk to your child about what you're reading.
- Read together.
- Buy books/take books out of the Library with your child

# Reading as a Rewards

Use reading as a reward and NEVER a punishment.

Behaviour/achievement charts.



# Takeaways and Top Tips

- Show your child that reading is a worthwhile and enjoyable activity;
- Engage with Children's Literature (research books);
- Find those "Golden Moments";
- Use Social Media to contact and connect with authors;
- JOIN A LIBRARY!