



Teachers' knowledge of children's reading practices

Review your practice



This self-review document is designed to help you consider your knowledge of your children as readers, their interests, passions and preferences at school and their often different out-of-school reading practices. The TaRs research revealed that such knowledge is crucial in order to help teachers foster RfP and build richly reciprocal and interactive communities of readers.

1. **How much do you know about the children's out-of-school reading practices, the kinds of reading they engage in currently and the frequency of these?**
 - A great deal
 - A fair amount
 - Not much
 - Very little

2. **How aware are you of individual children's reading histories and their journeys as readers thus far?**
 - Highly aware
 - Some knowledge
 - Limited knowledge
 - Unaware

3. **How much do you know about the on-line / digital reading that the children in your class engage in at home/in the community/with friends?**
 - A great deal
 - A fair amount
 - Not much
 - Very little

4. **How aware are you of the children's sense of self-confidence and their identities as readers?**
 - Highly aware
 - Some knowledge
 - Limited knowledge
 - Unaware

5. **How aware are you of the children's attitude to reading at school?**
 - Highly aware
 - Some knowledge
 - Limited knowledge
 - Unaware

6. **Name three books (and their authors) that children in your class are currently reading for pleasure**

7. **Thinking about the less confident readers in your class, what types of texts and authors do they like to read?**

8. **What do you think the children in your class consider reading is good for?**

(Tick all that apply)

- For improving their test scores
- For widening their vocabulary
- For getting a job
- For pleasure/fun
- I don't know

9. **Looking over your responses, how do you rate your knowledge of the reading practices and preferences of the children in your class and your knowledge of them as young readers**

(Rate this on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being the highest – circle one number)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

10. **Why in your view do teachers need to develop knowledge of the reading practices, interests and preferences of the children in their class?**

(Rank order these statements 1-5, with 1 being the most important and 5 the least)

- Widen what counts as reading in the children’s eyes and in their own _____
- Ensure text provision in class is responsive to need and interest _____
- Target tailored recommendations and ‘bookmatch’ _____
- Foster engagement and personal connections _____
- Build a community of readers _____

Further resources

Further resources are available from the website: www.researchrichpedagogies.org

- For ideas on how to increase your knowledge of children as readers, within and beyond school, see:
[Teachers’ knowledge of children’s reading practices: Practical classroom strategies.](#)
- For the underpinning research on Teachers’ knowledge of children’s reading practices, see:
[Teachers’ knowledge of children’s reading practices: More research details](#)