



READING  
FOR PLEASURE



# 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**

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**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: <https://ourfp.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: Classroom Strategies](#)
- For the underpinning research on Teachers' knowledge of children's reading practices, see:  
[Teachers' knowledge of children's reading practices: Research Summary](#)