



Independent Reading Time: Notes for PowerPoint

The section of the website devoted to this includes:

- A self-review document
- Two mini-films of classroom practice with teacher commentary
- Practical classroom strategies (10 ideas)
- More research details (2 pages)
- Examples of Practice (from teachers)

Preparation before the meeting

- a) Invite staff to come having observed their class during an IR time.
- b) Copy the grid (slide 6) and invite staff as they come in to complete their class entry.
- c) Open <https://ourfp.org/finding/rfpp/independent-reading/>

Discussion and activities during the meeting

- Slide 4: Invite staff to discuss in pairs where/when they read for pleasure and how they feel about this time to read newspapers, mags, websites, books etc.
- Slide 5: Answers: ERIC Everybody reading in class; DEAR Drop everything and read; SQUIRT Silent, quiet, uninterrupted reading time; USSR, Uninterrupted sustained silent reading. Discuss if these suit your IR time? Might you invent a new acronym?
- Slide 6: Using the grid invite staff to discuss in Year groups the timing and length of IR. Is it too short/long? Drawing on their observations what are the challenges?
- Slide 8: Discuss the questions, might some vary across Year groups/ the week?
- Slide 9: Watch the 3 minute clip and consider key messages re child ownership of their time. How is it different/similar to IR in your school? Any tweaks needed?
- Slides 10: How do staff facilitate informal talk linked to IR? Explore the possibilities and the advantages/ challenges.
- Slide 11: Invite staff to share how they tempt children to read particular texts and help them make wise choices. What texts are available - do some offer comics and online reading?
- Slide 12: Watch the clip on helping children choose and discuss.

To close: Planning ahead to develop IR practices in school

- Slide 14: Discuss which aspects staff want to develop further individually or together.
- Hand out the Practical Classroom Strategies document from the site with 10 ideas.
- Set a time for sharing development work and consider placing these on the site.