

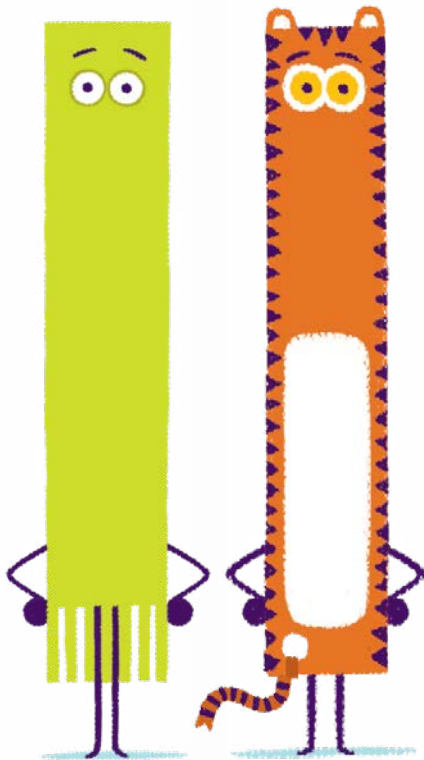
WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

SPONSORED BY

NATIONAL  
**BOOK  
tokens**

ILLUSTRATION **Rob Biddulph**

**SHARE A STORY  
FOR 10 MINUTES TODAY**



**JOIN OUR  
CAMPAIGN!**

Reading with a child for just  
**TEN MINUTES A DAY** can  
make a crucial difference

### When your child starts to read, sharing stories is **STILL** very important

Sometimes we think, 'My child(ren) won't need me to read aloud to them anymore now they can read to themselves' – but we are wrong. In general, children become able to read sometime between their sixth and eighth birthdays. It is important to celebrate that big step towards being a reader, but it is also important to be aware that all children still have a lot to learn.

### Sharing books helps them learn

Children are at a stage of transition from 'sounding out' the words to full understanding of a text. It takes a long time before a child becomes confident enough to get lost in a book on their own. It is possibly the most vulnerable stage to become readers. Listening to stories, read by someone close and loving, shares the joy of reading that they can look forward to when they are more confident. Even a snatched ten minutes ensures that youngsters:

- feel the loving bond created between you since early childhood
- get immediate access to enjoyment of a story that you can talk about
- hear how an experienced reader uses expression to make the text more exciting or to give a character an interesting voice.

There is no doubt that you will enjoy sharing books together as much as the children do. Every time it happens, you are providing support as they become independent readers.

### Open up the whole world of books

By this stage, children will be able to tell you what sorts of books interest them. There are all sorts of books to choose from:

- traditional tales from far and wide
- stories – either fiction or true, (e.g. biographies, history)
- information about favourite topics (e.g. dinosaurs, dancing, football, planets)
- poetry and picture books (suitable for their age group)
- atlases, annuals, lists, quizzes, film & TV spin-offs, games and puzzles

### Did you know that:

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's academic success? To your children, no one will be as good as you are at enjoying books with them.

### Great books to share with 5-8s

- *A Bear Called Paddington* by Michael Bond
- *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman, illustrated by Caroline Binch
- *The Book With No Pictures* by B.J. Novak
- *The Diary of a Killer Cat* by Anne Fine
- *The Worst Witch* by Jill Murphy
- *Claude* by Alex T. Smith
- *The Twits* by Roald Dahl, illustrated by Quentin Blake
- *Anna Hibiscus* by Atinuke

For more recommendations of fantastic stories to share for 5-8s, visit [worldbookday.com/reading-ideas-youll-love](http://worldbookday.com/reading-ideas-youll-love)