



Four Lanes Federation

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Mallaby
Head of School - infants: Mrs J Docherty
Head of School – juniors: Miss N Jones

Hanmore Road, Chineham, Basingstoke, Hampshire. RG24 8PQ
Infant contacts: gen.admin@fourlanes-inf.hants.sch.uk or phone: 01256-324256
Junior contact: admin@fourlanes-jun.hants.sch.uk or phone: 01256-816326
Websites: www.fourlanesinfants.co.uk & www.fourlanes-jun.hants.sch.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

We now have a super new library and we hope that the children feel excited to visit it each week. As part of the move, and in line with the latest government advice and research, we no longer have coloured book bands. The main purpose of this is to increase engagement with reading, as children are more likely to read when they have chosen a book for themselves. It also teaches them the vital skills needed to judge for themselves whether a book is of the appropriate level.

Children will still take two books home from the library each week: one book that they can read independently (or aloud to you) and one book that they would like to share with you at home but that may be beyond their current reading level. Children who are using the Little Wandle phonics programme will still take home an additional, fully decodable book to read with you at home.

Each library session is a taught session and the focus this half term will be on how to choose an appropriate level book. We recognise that it will take some time for children to adapt to this new system. Attached are some resources that we will be using in school that you may also like to use with your child at home to support them in this transition.

Thank you for your support and Happy Reading!

Ms Benstead
(Reading Lead)





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How to choose a good book

National Literacy Trust
Changing life stories

Look!
Browse the bookshelves - it's a great idea to have a good look at the books.

Check out the COVER!
Does it look interesting? What is the title? Who is the author? Is it like books you've tried before?

READ the blurb!
The blurb is the short paragraph on the back of the cover and tells you something about the story. What does the blurb tell you? Does it make you want to read the book?

Think about the GENRE
This is the type of story found in the book. This could be comedy, adventure or fantasy! What other kinds of stories have you enjoyed?

TRY it out
Read a few pages of the book. Do you want to know what happens next? It's fine to put it back if it doesn't feel right.

ASK
...the school librarian, teachers, parents or carers and your friends to recommend a book!

The RIGHT one
Use the five-finger test to help decide if it's the right book for you. Open the book and read a page. Every time you find a word on the page that you don't know, count one finger. If you get to five, the book is probably too hard, so put it back and try another one.

Five Finger Rule

How to choose a book:
 Pick a book and open to any page.
 Read and put one finger up for each oops!
 0-1= Too easy
 2-3= Great choice
 4= Give it a try
 5 or more= Too hard

