DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Helping your child at home

Simple ideas for maths, reading and writing

YEAR 2

Talk every day

Talking is where reading, writing and maths begin. Children who can say it clearly can write it clearly.

Ask "why?"
Follow up answers with "Why do you think that?"

Use "because"
Encourage longer answers: "I liked it because…"

Tell it back
Ask them to retell a trip or a TV show in order.

Maths

Quick-fire bonds
On the way to school: "7 and what make 10? 17 and what make 20?"

Times tables
Chant the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, then ask questions out of order.

Use real money
Let them count coins and pay at the shop: "How much change?"

Time it
"It's 4:15. What time will it be in 10 minutes?"

KEY FACTS TO KNOW THIS YEAR (KIRFS)

AUTUMN 1	AUTUMN 2	SPRING 1
Number bonds for each number to 20	The 5 times table	The 3 times table
SPRING 2	**SUMMER 1**	**SUMMER 2**
The 4 times table	Count, read and write numbers to 100	Tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes

TALK LIKE A MATHEMATICIAN – ENCOURAGE FULL SENTENCES

"There are 3 groups of 5. There are 15 altogether."

"To find half of 8, I share it into 2 equal groups."

KEY MATHS WORDS TO USE AT HOME

sum · difference · multiply · divide · equal groups · array · odd · even · tens · ones · fraction · half · quarter · third

Little and often – just 10 minutes a day makes a real difference.

Reading

Read every day

10–15 minutes a day, somewhere cosy and quiet. Little and often is best.

Read with expression

Model funny voices and pauses, then let them have a go. Smooth reading helps understanding.

Talk about new words

Stop at a new word: “What do you think it means? Let’s find out.”

Keep reading to them

A bedtime chapter book shares stories just beyond their reading level.

TALK ABOUT THE BOOK

“Why did the character do that? How do you know?”

“How do you think they felt at the end?”

“Which part did you like best? Why?”

Writing

Say it first

Rehearse each sentence out loud before writing it down. Then read it back.

Joining words

Help them stretch sentences with **and, but, because, so, when, if**.

Check punctuation

Capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks.

Write for real

A weekend diary, a thank-you card or a recipe to follow together.

YEAR 2 TRICKY WORDS TO PRACTISE

because · children · beautiful · people · could · should · would

water · money · clothes · whole · Christmas

Try **look, say, cover, write, check** with a few words each week. Ask your class teacher for the full list.

More ideas to try at home

Quick, free activities that fit into everyday life. Pick one or two a week – no worksheets needed.

MATHS **Play shops**
Price toys up to £1. Pay with real coins and work out the change.

MATHS **Time detective**
Check the clock at key moments: "What time is it? When is tea?"

MATHS **Card pairs**
Turn over two playing cards. Do they make 10? Can you make 20?

MATHS **Measure up**
Use a tape measure: who is tallest? How long is the sofa in cm?

READING **Recipe readers**
Read and follow a simple recipe together, step by step.

READING **Reading den**
Build a den with blankets and read inside it by torchlight.

READING **Audiobooks**
Listen to a story on a journey, then talk about your favourite part.

WRITING **Weekend diary**
Write three sentences about the weekend. Add a drawing.

WRITING **Comic strip**
Draw a four-box comic with speech bubbles for each character.

WRITING **Lists and labels**
Write the shopping list, or labels for a museum of their toys.

TALK **Would you rather?**
"Would you rather fly or be invisible? Why?" Reasons matter!

TALK **Good news at tea**
Everyone shares one good thing about their day at mealtime.

Why reading matters

Reading for pleasure is one of the best ways to help your child do well at school. It builds vocabulary, imagination and confidence.

Keep sharing stories, even when they can read alone. Let them see you reading too!

Visit your local library

- Joining is **free** and children can borrow books at no cost.
- Let them choose their own books – any book they enjoy counts.
- Look out for free story times and the Summer Reading Challenge.

☆ Recommended reads for Year 2

Stories, facts, poems and comics from many voices and places. Look out for them at your local library.

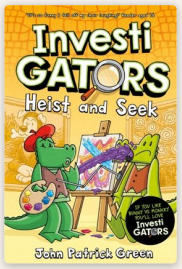


CHAPTER BOOK

Flat Stanley

Jeff Brown & Rob Biddulph

Squashed flat by a falling noticeboard, Stanley finds being flat has its uses.

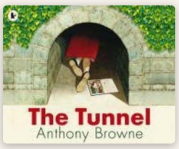


GRAPHIC NOVEL

InvestiGators

John Patrick Green

Two alligator detectives travel by toilet to solve silly crimes. Packed with puns.

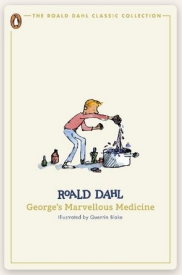


PICTURE BOOK

The Tunnel

Anthony Browne

A sister follows her brother through a dark tunnel into a strange, scary forest.

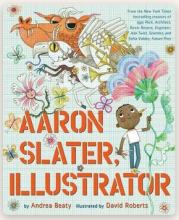


CHAPTER BOOK

George's Marvellous Medicine

Roald Dahl & Quentin Blake

George mixes up a magic medicine for his grumpy grandma – with wild results.

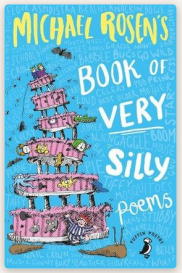


PICTURE BOOK

Aaron Slater, Illustrator

Andrea Beaty & David Roberts

Aaron finds reading hard, but discovers he can tell stories through his art.



POETRY

Michael Rosen's Book of Very Silly Poems

Michael Rosen & Shoo Rayner

Funny poems that are perfect for reading – and performing – aloud.

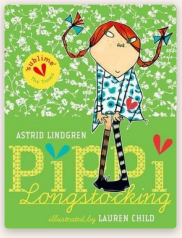


NON-FICTION

The Big Book of the Blue

Yuval Zommer

Dive into the ocean and meet amazing sea creatures, big and small.



CLASSIC STORY

Pippi Longstocking

Astrid Lindgren & Lauren Child

The strongest girl in the world lives alone with a horse and a monkey.

Find 50 more top reads

Scan the code or visit **booksfortopics.com** and choose **Recommended Reads › Year 2**.