DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Helping your child at home

Simple ideas for maths, reading and writing

YEAR 5

Talk every day

Talking is where reading, writing and maths begin. Confident speakers become confident writers.

Friendly debates
"Should children have phones?" Give reasons for both sides.

Challenge politely
"I see your point, but…" shows respectful disagreement.

Talk to adults
Let them order food or ask for help in a shop.

Maths

Keep tables sharp
Mix up multiplication and division facts to 12 × 12: "What is 63 ÷ 9?"

Find factors
"Which pairs of numbers multiply to make 24?"

Decimals everywhere
Compare prices, race times and measurements: "Which is bigger, 0.7 or 0.65?"

Convert units
While cooking or travelling: "How many metres in 2.5 km?"

KEY FACTS TO KNOW THIS YEAR (KIRFS)

AUTUMN 1
Decimal number bonds for numbers 1–10

AUTUMN 2
Find factor pairs of a number

SPRING 1
Decimal number bonds to 1 and 10

SPRING 2
Recall metric conversions

SUMMER 1
All times tables up to 12 × 12

SUMMER 2
Square numbers to 12^2 and their square roots

TALK LIKE A MATHEMATICIAN – ENCOURAGE FULL SENTENCES

"0.45 + 0.55 = one whole."

"In the fraction 6/5, 5 equal parts make one whole."

KEY MATHS WORDS TO USE AT HOME

factor pair · prime number · square number · common multiple · divisor · quotient · mixed number · improper fraction · thousandths · percentage

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

Reading

Read every day

20–30 minutes of independent reading. Ask them what they are reading and why they chose it.

Stretch their choices

Try classic novels, poetry, biographies and newspapers alongside favourites.

Read the same book

Reading a book alongside them gives you lots to talk about.

Look for meaning

Talk about what the author suggests but doesn't say directly.

TALK ABOUT THE BOOK

"What can you work out about this character from what they do?"

"How does the author build tension or excitement?"

"Would you recommend this book? Why or why not?"

Writing

Argue it, then write it

Talking through both sides of a debate is perfect planning for persuasive writing.

Add extra detail

Use **who, which, that**: "My bike, which is red, has a flat tyre."

Proofread together

Read work aloud to spot missing words, spelling slips and punctuation.

Write for a reason

A review, a letter to a relative or an email to a local business.

YEAR 5 AND 6 SPELLINGS TO PRACTISE

accommodate · ancient · conscience · definite · embarrass · environment · government · necessary · neighbour · rhythm · sincerely · yacht

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 **Party planner**
Give a pretend £50 budget to plan food and decorations for a party.

MATHS **Cook and convert**
Halve or double a recipe and convert between grams and kilograms.

MATHS **Sports stats**
Compare race times, scores and league tables – decimals in action.

MATHS **Number of the day**
Pick a number. List its factors. Is it prime? Is it square?

READING **Book club for two**
Read the same book as your child and chat about it as you go.

READING **Perform a poem**
Find a poem they love, learn it and perform it for the family.

READING **Beyond stories**
Try biographies, atlases, magazines and children's newspapers.

WRITING **Letter with a purpose**
Write to the council or a local business about something that matters.

WRITING **Change the ending**
Rewrite the ending of a favourite book or film. What changes?

WRITING **Holiday journal**
Keep a diary over the holidays, with tickets, photos and drawings.

TALK **Big questions**
"What makes a good friend?" Discuss it properly at dinner.

TALK **Two-minute talk**
Prepare and present a short talk on a hobby or interest.

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 empathy.

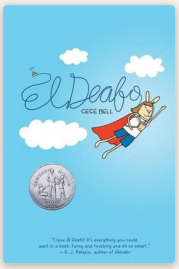
Keep talking about books together, and let them see you reading too!

Visit your local library

- Joining is **free** and children can borrow books at no cost.
- Let them choose their own books – graphic novels count too.
- Look out for free events and the Summer Reading Challenge.

☆ Recommended reads for Year 5

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

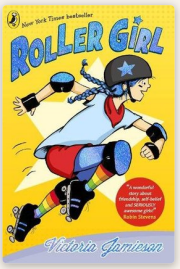


GRAPHIC MEMOIR

El Deafo

Cece Bell

Cece's true story of losing her hearing as a child – and finding her superpower.



GRAPHIC NOVEL

Roller Girl

Victoria Jamieson

Astrid joins a roller derby camp and learns about growing up and changing friendships.



FICTION

The Last Bear

Hannah Gold & Levi Pinfold

On a remote Arctic island, April befriends a starving polar bear and tries to get him home.

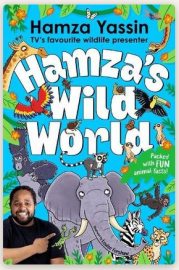


ADVENTURE

Brightstorm

Vashti Hardy

Twins Arthur and Maudie join a sky-ship race to the South Polar to clear their father's name.

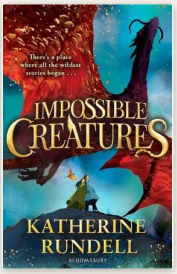


NON-FICTION

Hamza's Wild World

Hamza Yassin & Louise Forshaw

The wildlife presenter shares amazing facts about animals and the natural world.



FANTASY

Impossible Creatures

Katherine Rundell

Christopher discovers a hidden world where magical creatures live – and it is in danger.



POETRY

Our Earth is a Poem

Various poets and illustrators

A beautiful collection of poems celebrating nature and our planet.



FANTASY

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

Rick Riordan

Percy discovers he is the son of a Greek god – and is accused of stealing Zeus's lightning bolt.

Find 50 more top reads

Scan the code or visit **booksfortopics.com** and choose **Recommended Reads › Year 5**.