

Busselton Primary School Independent Reading

Definition

Independent Reading is the independent application of previously learnt reading strategies to a self-selected text. Students foster a love and enjoyment of reading through a wide variety of literary and informational texts. (based on First Steps Reading).

Key Features

- Students select their own text
- Students read silently
- Everyone is involved in reading
- The session is uninterrupted.
- Non-readers can look at the pictures, or sit with a partner and share the text.

Frequency and Time

- Minimum of 40-60 minutes per week inclusive of all opportunities for reading.
- It may be conducted at different times across classrooms to fit in with DOTT and time tables. E.g. Guided Reading, allocated Independent Reading time, morning routine etc.

Suggestions for Monitoring and Reflection

Teachers may want to use some of the following strategies:

- Oral retells after reading
- Oral or written book reviews
- Journal Reflections
- Reading log with title, date, comments etc.
- Observation grids
- Anecdotal notes

Selection of Texts

- Just Right Junior and Middle Primary Posters in library and classrooms
- Rule of Thumb
- Teachers to teach this explicitly and refer to them in library and independent reading times.