



I'm worried about my child's reading !

This is a common concern of parents. Allow me to give some guidelines that can assist you. A successful reader is one who can read for meaning, interpret and draw conclusions.

This will not happen if the reader cannot decode what is being read at the word level.

The main causes of reading problems are a lack of instruction, a visual or hearing impairment or English not being a child's native tongue. I commonly find that children who have suffered from glue ear or speech problems when they were young have reading difficulties. They have not correctly learnt their alphabet phonology and can't associate the written letters with the sound they have in their brain when blending and decoding words. These children will need remedial reading instruction based on an accurate diagnosis of their needs.

There are 8 key questions you need to ask of your child's reading skills

Do they :

1. lean abnormally close to the written page?
2. complain of sore eyes or that the words are moving on the page?
3. rhyme words incorrectly ?
4. get letters confused like b/d or p/q ?
5. avoid reading at all costs at school, home or in project research ?
6. orally read painfully slow and lack in fluency ?
7. often guess incorrectly at words?
8. express frustration while trying to understand comprehension questions?

If you answered "YES" to two or more of these, you should seek professional help since the pen is mightier than the sword and he who can read has the world at their feet.

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