

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Sequence/**S**ummarise



At Old Heath we use reading VIPERS to support the children with their reading comprehension skills. They are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their vocabulary and comprehension of texts and to become confident, analytical readers.

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Each of the letters stand for the skills that will be taught explicitly each week. This gives all children across the school a common language to discuss their reading knowledge and understanding.

One high quality, challenging text will be used throughout the week to be studied in depth and 'Vocabulary' plus one of the other VIPERS skills will be the main focus. In years 3 to 5, each class will cover the skills in the same order and the lessons follow the same structure each week.

Lessons include teachers modelling reading and children reading the texts together either as a class or in pairs which supports the development of confidence, fluency and expression.

Each Friday will be devoted to an image, a short film or a picture book, where all of the VIPERS skills are developed.

Challenging texts are chosen so that all are exposed to rich vocabulary, and high-quality text responses. Lower prior attainers will be supported through pre-teaching, differentiation and scaffolding which will provide structure and support. Discussion of the texts also reinforces spoken language, learning from the specific language modelled by the teacher and that of their peers.

Children in Key Stage 2 and at the end of Year 2, have a VIPERS book to record work, with stickers to identify the skill being taught. The weekly text is stuck into each book. Each classroom and the library have the Reading VIPERS displayed with a permanent VIPERS display board celebrating recent work in the main school corridor.

Year 6

In Year 6 there is a change to the structure of the VIPERS lessons with most/all of the skills covered each week depending on the text type. This is because the expectation for the end of year 6 is the ability to combine all of the VIPERS skills and apply them in an allotted time. Throughout the year, the pace and coverage increase to ensure that this can be achieved.

Key Stage One and Early Years

In Early Years and Key Stage 1, the reading emphasis will continue to be on phonics and developing decoding skills. VIPERS will be introduced orally during some story times. The emphasis is on vocabulary and Understanding of the text and key reading skills are embedded through questioning and discussion.

Parents have been given a bank of possible questions to enable them to support when reading at home (see examples).

