

World Book Day

What Is World Book Day?

World Book Day is a yearly event which encourages reading for pleasure and aims to give every child the chance to own a book of their own. It was created in 1995 by UNESCO, who are responsible for making sure that everyone in the world gets a chance to learn.



What Happens on World Book Day?

On World Book Day, children take part in exciting activities in school, such as dressing up as their favourite characters, learning about authors and taking part in fun reading challenges. These activities are aimed at encouraging children's love of books and reading. Many libraries, authors, **publishers** and booksellers also take part in World Book Day.

Did You Know...?

On World Book Day, schoolchildren in the UK are given a token to choose a book for £1. This should enable all children to get at least one new book each year.

Why Is Reading Important?



It is important that children enjoy reading. Reading for pleasure can help children to achieve well at school by improving their **comprehension** skills and **vocabulary**. When children read a variety of texts, they also improve their general knowledge and understanding of other cultures.

Reading for pleasure also helps to improve children's problem-solving skills. It can also help them to understand other people's thoughts and feelings.

Did You Know...?

The money that is raised during World Book Day helps a variety of charities, including Book Aid International. They provide books for people around the world who are affected by issues such as war and **poverty**.

Not Sure What to Read?

It can sometimes be difficult to find a book that interests you. Here are some top tips to help you to select your perfect book:

Read what is written on the back cover. This description, called the blurb, will tell you more about what the book is about.

Have a quick flick through. You will be able to see the size of the text and whether it contains any illustrations, pictures or diagrams that interest you.

Ask a friend. Why not ask your friends if they have read any good books that they might recommend?

Read a non-fiction text about one of your favourite topics. This could be a fact book, a biography/ autobiography or a magazine about something or someone that interests you.

Try something new. It is often easier to stick to what we know we like. However, we may find a book or author that we love if we try something different.

Choose a book based on a film. Why not try reading the text version of a film that you have seen?

Keep going. It can sometimes take a few chapters to become hooked on a story and its characters.

Visit your local library. Borrowing a book is free for children and librarians can often provide some helpful advice and offer suggestions.

Glossary

comprehension: The ability to understand something.

poverty: When someone is extremely poor.

publisher: A company that prepares and supplies books.

vocabulary: The range of words that a person uses.

Questions

1. In which year was World Book Day created? Tick one.
☐ 1997
☐ 1995
☐ 1996
☐ 1992
2. What are schoolchildren given on World Book Day? Tick one.
☐ a token
☐ a bookmark
☐ a sticker
☐ a certificate
3. Which charity provides books for people around the world who are affected by issues such as war and poverty?

4. Fill in the missing word.

Read what is written on the back cover. This description,
called the _____, will tell you more about what the book is about.

5. Which section of the text gives you tips on how to choose the right book?

6. Explain why you think that it is a good idea to try something new when choosing a book to read.

7. **UNESCO... are responsible for making sure that everyone in the world gets a chance to learn.**
Explain how World Book Day helps them to do this.

8. Summarise what you have learnt about World Book Day.
