

First Level Reading, First Level Reading, First Level Reading, First Level Reading

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**Focus Cards for class and group work in reading.**

**First Level Reading Benchmarks**



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# Focus Cards

These cards are based on Curriculum for Excellence Benchmarks.

The purpose for these is to provide a means of creating a focal point for reading lessons which includes our pupils in understanding the reason behind the lesson.

Teachers may ask PSAs to work with groups using the focus cards which correlate to the learning intentions outlined in their plans. This is one way of creating more understanding of what Curriculum for Excellence is about and the learning and teaching progression.

These cards could be printed on card and placed in a ring binder so that they can be displayed for pupils to see.



**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Choose a text you would like to read. Explain why you chose this text.

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Choose a book or text for a purpose by looking at the title, blurb, glossary, contents page etc.

**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Read aloud using expression. Try to read a steady pace and look out for full stops, questions marks and exclamation marks. Try not to read like a robot!

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Recognise and read some words that we come across often when we are reading. These could be common words or key reading words.

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Use word attack strategies when you get to a word you don't know. You could sound out the word, break it into syllables or look to see if you can find a word within the word.

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Look for letter patterns that you recognise when you are trying to read a word that you don't know.



**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Look out for punctuation and use this to help you read aloud with expression.

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Use clues to help you understand what you are reading. You could look at the pictures, look at the title or headings or think about what you already know.

**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Pick out some key facts or main ideas from what you have read today.

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Write some key words or notes about what you have read under headings.

**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Use the contents page, index, glossary, headings, subheadings or diagrams to find information in the text.

**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Tell an adult or a classmate – who is the story? Where is the story set? How does the story begin? What is the problem? How does the story end?

**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Ask questions before, during and after reading to make sense of what you read.

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Answer questions about what I have read when the answer is in the text - literal.



**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Answer questions about what I  
have read when I have to read  
between the lines and look for clues  
(inferential)

**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Answer evaluative questions.

These are questions which let you give your opinion.

**Our focus for today is to:**



- ✓ Recognise the difference between fact and opinion.

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**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Offer your ideas about the character, setting or the words that the author chose to use.

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**Our focus for today is to:**



✓ Offer your ideas about the message behind the story. What do you think the author is trying to tell us?

