

Sparx Reader Parents Guide

Sparx Reader is an online literacy program designed to help students improve their reading skills through personalised books and quizzes. Here's what parents need to know to support their child's reading journey.

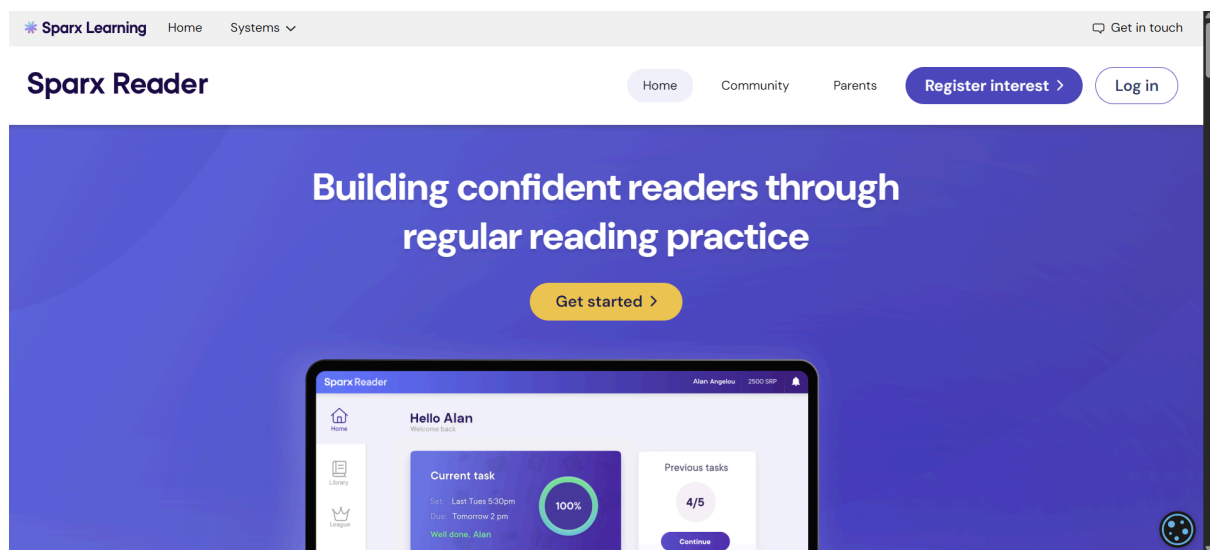
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What is Sparx Reader?

Sparx Reader is a learning tool designed to support children's reading development. It offers **personalised reading** experiences by assigning books that match a child's specific reading level, ensuring they are challenged appropriately while still enjoying their reading journey.

To reinforce understanding, Sparx Reader includes **comprehension checks**, where children take quizzes after finishing a book to test their understanding of the material. This helps improve reading skills and critical thinking.

Additionally, Sparx Reader is **school-managed**, meaning our teachers at Cotham play an active role in setting reading goals and tracking student progress. This allows for a structured approach to literacy development, with teachers guiding students toward success.

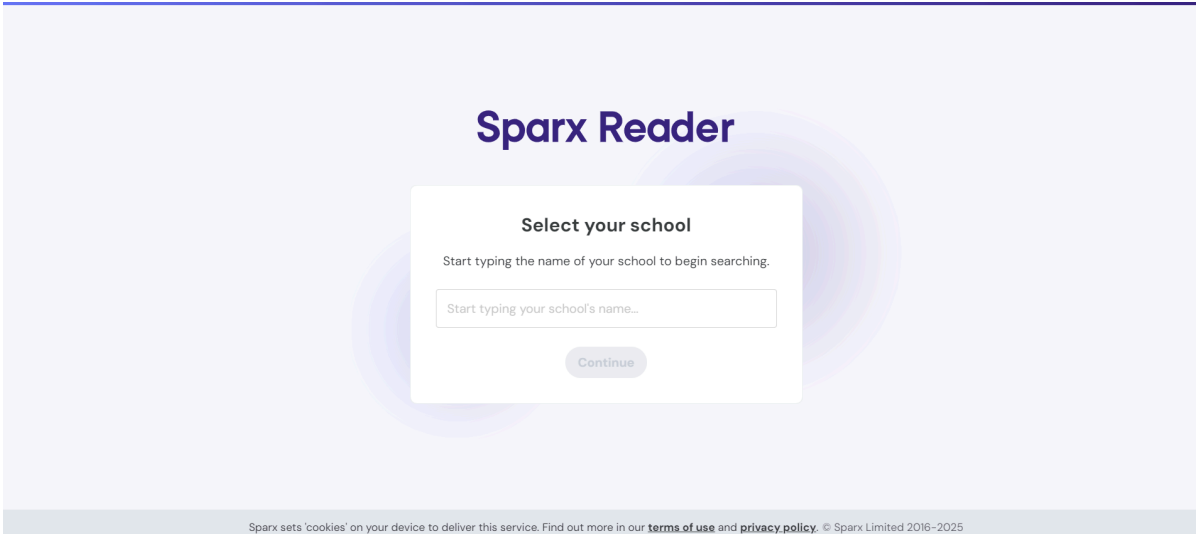


How Parents Can Access Sparx Reader

Viewing Through Your Child's Account

There is no direct parent sign-up. Access is managed by the Cotham School's English Department.

As a parent, you can log in using your child's login details. This would be the same as login as their school Gmail. When you open the platform (https://selectschool.sparxmaths.uk/?app=sparx_reader), you will be asked to select a school. Search for and select "Cotham School".



Sparx Reader

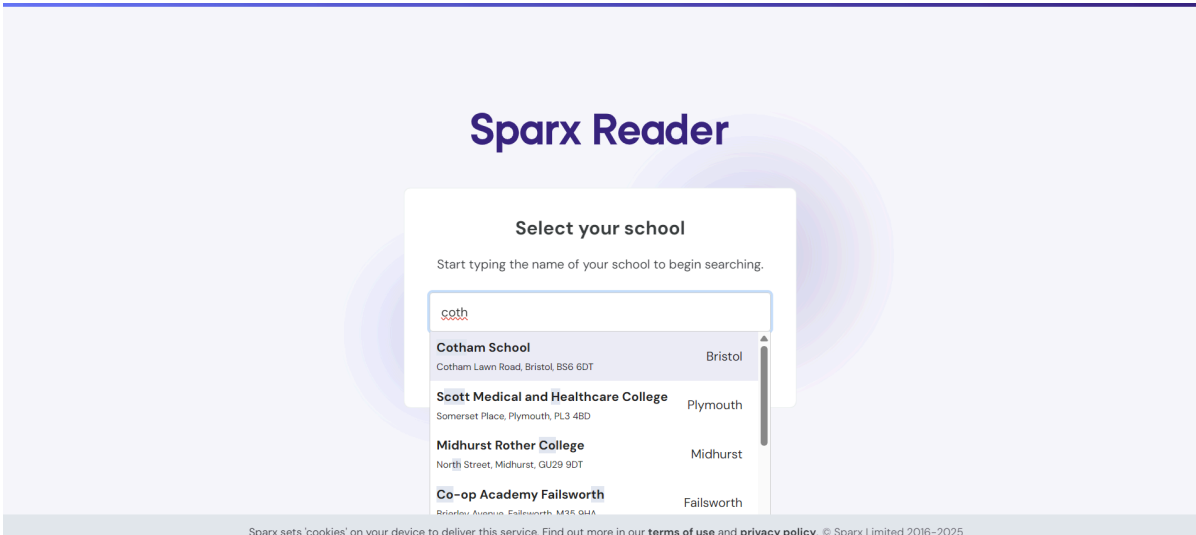
Select your school

Start typing the name of your school to begin searching.

Start typing your school's name...

Continue

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Sparx Reader

Select your school

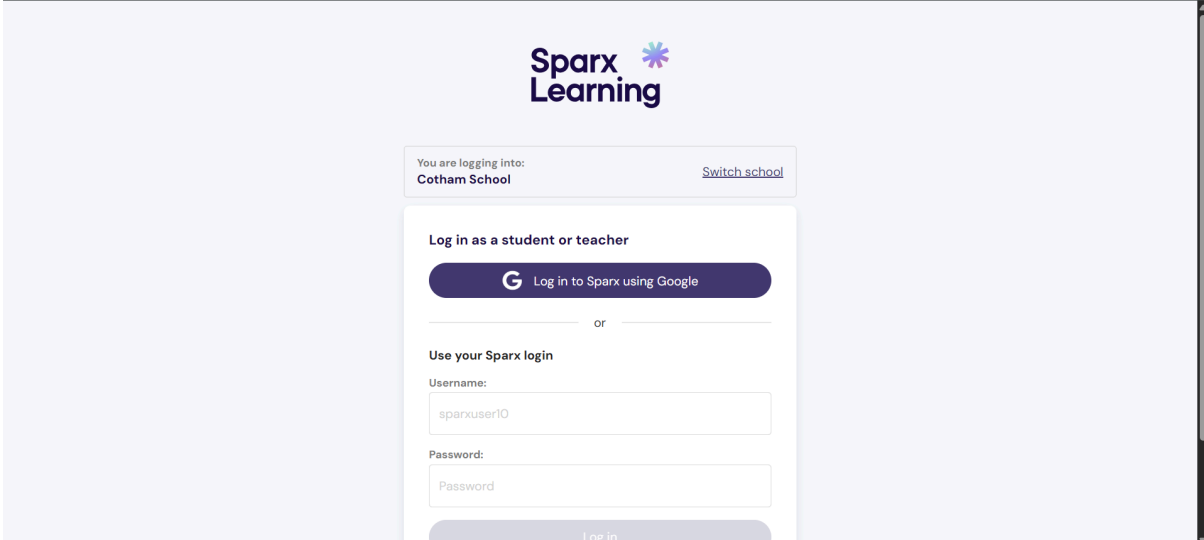
Start typing the name of your school to begin searching.

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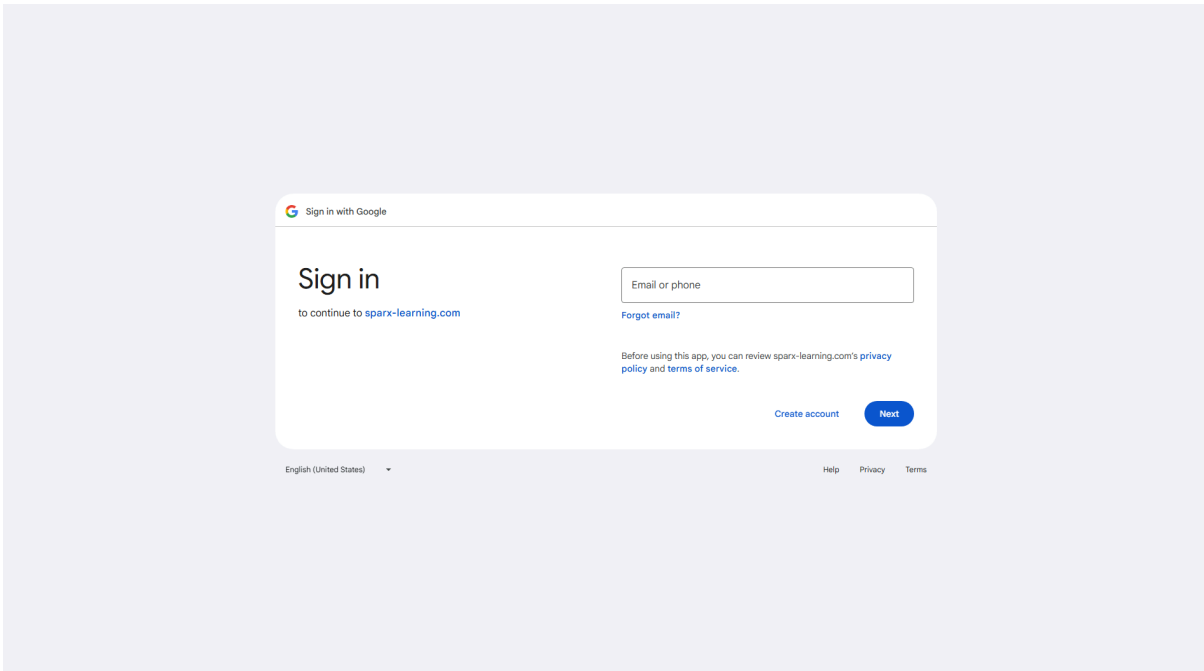
Cotham School Cotham Lawn Road, Bristol, BS6 6DT	Bristol
Scott Medical and Healthcare College Somerset Place, Plymouth, PL3 4BD	Plymouth
Midhurst Rother College North Street, Midhurst, GU29 9DT	Midhurst
Co-op Academy Failsworth Brierley Avenue, Failsworth, MK35 9JA	Failsworth

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You would then need to “Log in to Sparx using Google”.



The image shows the Sparx Learning login page. At the top, the Sparx Learning logo is displayed. Below it, a box indicates the user is logging into 'Cotham School' with a 'Switch school' link. The main section is titled 'Log in as a student or teacher' and offers two options: 'Log in to Sparx using Google' (with a Google 'G' icon) and 'Use your Sparx login'. The 'Use your Sparx login' section includes fields for 'Username' (containing 'sparxuser10') and 'Password' (containing 'Password'), followed by a 'Log in' button.



The image shows the Google Sign in interface. It features a 'Sign in with Google' header. The main section is titled 'Sign in' and includes a link to 'sparx-learning.com'. There is a text input field for 'Email or phone' and a 'Forgot email?' link. Below this, a note states: 'Before using this app, you can review sparx-learning.com's [privacy policy](#) and [terms of service](#).' At the bottom right, there are links for 'Create account' and a 'Next' button. The footer includes 'English (United States)' and links for 'Help', 'Privacy', and 'Terms'.

Note: Sparx reading is set weekly and due on Monday mornings for all students in KS3.

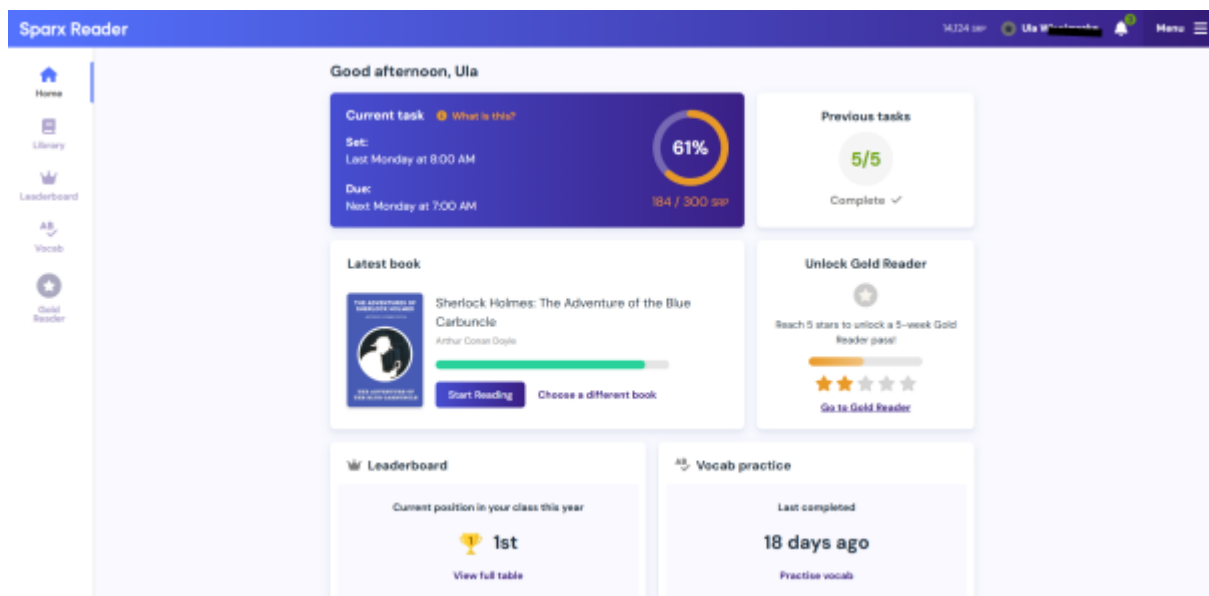
Key Features for Parents

Dashboard

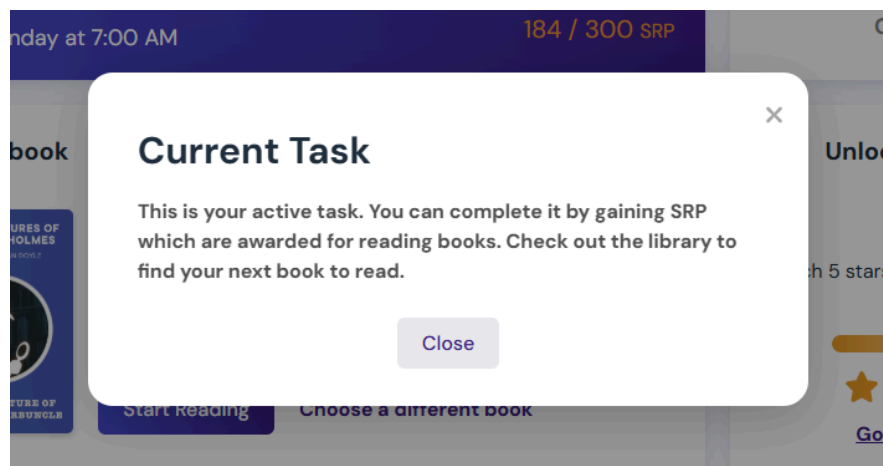
Once you have logged in, you will have access to your child's Dashboard. Through the "Home" tab, you can view:

- The current and previous tasks set by your child's English teacher.
- The current/latest book they are reading.
- Your child's class ranking.
- Books completed, quiz scores and reading times.

Below is an example of a student home page. The purple box shows the students current task and their current progress towards completing the task.



By selecting the "What is this?" option in the Current Task box, you will get an explanation on what needs to be achieved to complete the task.

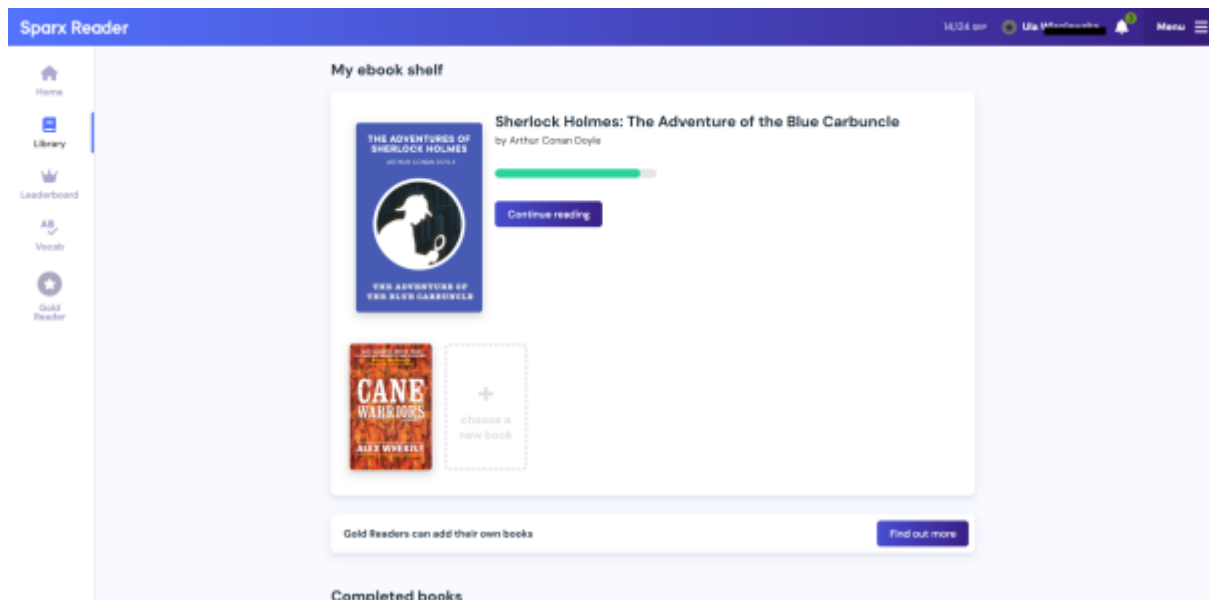


In Sparx Reader, SPR stands for Sparx Reader Points. These points are earned by students as they read and successfully complete comprehension checks. The system encourages careful reading by awarding points based on how well students answer quiz questions after each section of a book. Teachers can set homework goals using SPR, ensuring students engage in regular reading practice

eBook Library

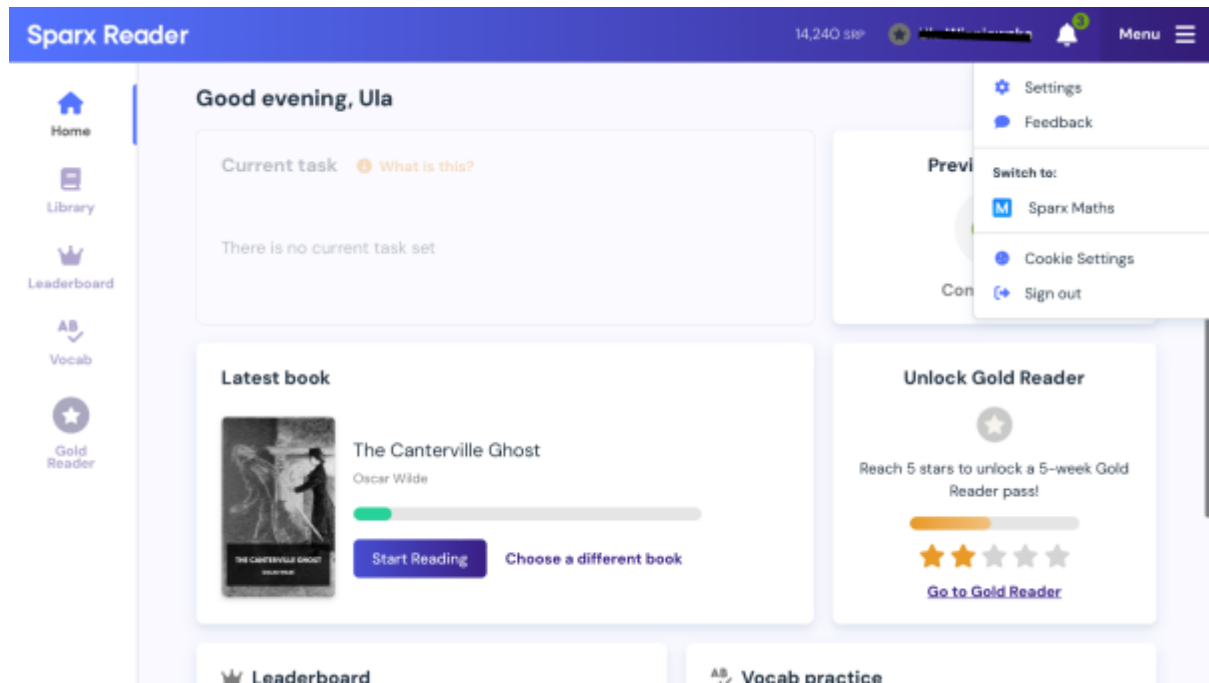
By selecting the “Library” tab, you and your child can browse and select a variety of books. There are a mix of fiction and non-fiction books that are matched to your child’s reading level.

Our English classroom teachers set reading goals (e.g. 30 minutes) for your child to accomplish on a weekly basis. However, your child will be allowed to select the book they read through the “Library” tab. Progress is shown in the “Home” tab.



Settings

To get to the menu, click the 3 horizontal lines (Menu) located on the top right corner of the screen. Click on “Settings” when the drop down menu appears.



Screenshot of settings menu below.



When in the settings menu. You can do the following:

- Change font size
- Change line height
- Change line spacing
- Change font style
- Change background colour
- Set a reading guide



Weekly Progress Update

If you have your email address shared with the school, Sparx Reader will send you a weekly progress update for your child's reading tasks.

How to Support Your Child

- ✓ Encourage regular reading time – Just 10-15 minutes a day helps build a habit and strengthens comprehension skills.
- ✓ Discuss books together – Ask questions like "What happened in the story?" or "Who was your favourite character?" to make reading interactive.
- ✓ Celebrate progress – Praise improvements in quiz scores and completed books to keep motivation high.
- ✓ Create a quiet reading space – A comfortable, distraction-free environment helps children focus and enjoy their books more.
- ✓ Connect books to interests – If your child loves dinosaurs, space, or adventure, choose books that match their passions.
- ✓ Reach out to the teacher if needed – If quizzes or comprehension remain a challenge, teachers can offer extra support and resources.

Parent FAQs

- ? How much time should my child spend on Sparx Reader?
→ We would recommend approximately 20-30 mins per week.
- ? Can I read the books with my child?
→ Yes! Shared reading is encouraged, but quizzes should be done independently.
- ? Why is my child reading the same book twice?
→ Sparx Reader sometimes repeats books to reinforce understanding.

Useful Links

Sparx Reader Parent Guide: <https://sparxreader.com/parents/>