Research Study Title: Does reading for pleasure support vocabulary learning?

Pupil Information Sheet

Dear Pupil,

We are researchers at the Department of Psychology at Royal Holloway and we would like to invite you to participate in a study about vocabulary and reading development.

• What is the study?
We are trying to find out if reading helps you learn new words. You will be asked to read some books for 10 weeks and then we will ask you what you know about words from these books. We also want to find out how much pupils your age read outside of school so you will be asked to complete a reading diary every weekday during the 10 weeks. The reading diary is really simple: you will be asked what book you’re reading and what page you’re on and you can collect rewards for completing the diary.

• When does it start?
We will let you know when you can borrow a book and start reading. You can read this book in your own time outside of school. We will then also send you the reading diary every morning before school. The study lasts 10 weeks. If you have not finished the book you’re on, you are welcome to keep reading it after the end of the study.

• Where can I find the books?
There are four books to choose from, and these can be found and need to be signed out by Miss Quick in A109. You will start by choosing one of the books to read. If you don’t find the book interesting or if you finish the book, you can choose another one. You can read just one book, or up to four books, before the end of the 10 weeks.

• What do I need to do?
We will send you a practice reading diary at the start of the study. You will need to complete this for 4 days. This can help you to get an idea of how much you normally read. You will need to say what book you’re reading and what page you’re on.

Over the next 10 weeks, read the books in your free time and enjoy!

We will also send you a text message with a link to the reading diary every day (only on weekdays), asking you what page you are on. Each week you will be asked to set a goal of how many pages you aim to read each day of that week.

When you complete the diaries, you will collect clues to solve the mystery of who tried to commit a robbery. You need to complete at least 3 days each week to unlock a new clue. You
can complete the reading diary even if you do not manage to read any pages that day. After the 10 weeks, if you have collected enough clues, you can solve the mystery of who has tried to steal the gold from the safe.

At the very end, you will be asked to complete extra activities about the words that occur in the books and some other reading and vocabulary activities. We will not share any of your individual data with the school, so it will not influence your grades.

• How do I set goals for the number of pages I want to read?

We will send you a practice diary for 4 days at the start of the study. You will be asked about any book you are reading and how many pages you read the previous day. It is okay if you are not reading a book. This practice diary will help you to get an idea of how much you normally read.

After you have finished the practice diary, you will start the real reading diary. You will need to set your goal each week. The goal can be a few more pages than what you normally read. Do not worry if you do not reach your goal sometimes. You can always try again on the following day.

You can change your goals at the start of each week or keep them the same. When you enter which page number you are on you will also have the option to change the book you are reading if you have finished it or wish to swap it for another.

• How do I do the diary?

We will send you a link to begin the experiment. When you click on the link, you will see this screen. Press ‘Start’.
On the next screen please enter your phone number here, then press ‘OK’.

You should then receive a verification code on your phone. Enter this here, then press ‘OK’.

If you don’t receive a code, re-enter your phone number to make sure you typed it correctly.

The verification text will look similar to this.

Next, you will see this screen. You don’t need to click anything – the instructions will automatically load.
When you first open the diary, you will see these instructions. This will explain how to complete the reading diary and tell you how to solve the mystery. Read the instructions carefully then press ‘OK’.

Next, you will tell your diary which book you have chosen to read. Scroll through the book options by pressing the left or right arrows on the screen.

If you are just starting the book you will choose the ‘I’m just starting this book’ option.

If you are already reading this book, you would select ‘I’m already on this page’.
At the start of each week you will set your goal. To do this you enter the number of pages you have chosen to read, then press ‘Save’. For example, if you chose to set your goal at 10 pages per day, you would enter the number 10.

Throughout the rest of the week, you will see this screen. This tells you the book you are reading and the page number you last entered.

This page also gives you the option to update your current page number. You need to update the page number that you are on each day. To do so, click ‘Update Page number’.
Enter your page number here, then click ‘Save’.

Once you have entered your page number and pressed ‘save’ you can close the browser.

The bar next to the star will show your progress towards reaching your goal.
If you reach your goal, the bar will be complete.

Continue to enter your page number throughout the week.
If you complete 3 reading diaries, you can unlock another clue which will help you solve the crime.

### Week 1

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Your daily goal was to read 5 pages. This week, you've managed an average of 4 pages per day. Because you completed at least 3 reading diaries this week, you can unlock another clue!

When you have unlocked a clue, you can tap a magnifying glass to see what it is.

**NOTE:** To view the whole crime scene, turn your phone to landscape.

Once all the clues have been unlocked you can view the line-up of suspects and choose who you think committed the crime. You can have multiple guesses.

**NOTE:** To get a better view of what name belongs to what person, turn your phone to landscape.
A clue will appear giving you more information to solve the crime.

Click the cross at the top right of the clue to go back to the crime scene.
You can then go back to the diary by clicking ‘back to diary’.

You can check the clues you have already unlocked and view the crime scene at any time by clicking ‘Go to crime scene’ button at the bottom of this screen.
• **What happens if I change my mind?**

You can change your mind at any time. If you decide you want to stop participating, please let us or your tutor know.

Contact details

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