

Love to Read



Hello!

It's coming to the end of the year and we know everyone is looking forward to a restful break! In our last newsletter of the year we will discuss our new website, conferences, some amazing illustrations and what's happening in Phases 1 and 2.

Phase 1: Interviews with children

We have now completed interviews with children for the year and have thoroughly enjoyed learning about their reading experiences and ideas to encourage book reading. We're now analysing the data (preregistration plan here <https://osf.io/5ztjk>) and hope to be able to share some of the themes we identified soon.

Phase 2: Co-designing the intervention

As Phase 1 comes to an end, it's almost time to commence Phase 2! We have recently received ethical approval to proceed with the co-design aspect of the project. Early next year we will be preregistering this phase and recruiting six teachers to co-create the Love to Read intervention. We're very excited about this phase of the project and may ask members of the team, and expert advisory group, to suggest teachers who they think would be well placed to support with this activity.

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Illustrations

Early next year we hope to be able to share some of the illustrations that have been created for the Love to Read project. This work has been created by a very talented illustrator Katie McPherson and graphic designer Chris Brodt who proposed three very different illustration ideas for the project. We decided to leave the decision to children, and over the last couple of weeks we have asked five classes of primary school children to vote on their favourite option, and give us feedback to ensure the illustrations really capture their interest and imagination. The most popular illustration theme chosen was 'powerful portals' and we hope to be able to share these illustrations soon.

Website

We are delighted to have just launched the website for the Love to Read project. You can access it here: <https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/lovetoread/>. It includes information about the Love to Read project, intervention principles, will host our monthly newsletters and also includes biographies from some members of the Love to Read team. If you have any ideas of things you'd like to see on the website, please get in touch. Also, if you'd like to create your own biography (examples here) please do so and we'll share this on our website.

Conferences

Next year we hope to present at two major literacy conferences: The United Kingdom Literacy Association Annual Conference and the Society for Scientific Studies of Reading International Conference. For the UKLA, we hope to discuss Love to Read as part of a symposium entitled: Better together: Co-designing literacy interventions with children, young people, teachers and other professionals (led by Sarah McGeown). For SSSR, we have also submitted a proposal as part of a symposium entitled: Connecting reading research and practice: identifying need and implementing interventions (led by Jessie Ricketts). If you know of any other conferences, meetings or events that you think we'd be interested in, please let us know.

Finally, for a bit of fun, have you ever wondered which children's book character you are? Complete this Scottish Book Trust quiz to find out the question you've always wanted the answer to! <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/support-us/which-childrens-book-character-are-you>

As always, we're on Twitter @_Love_to_read

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful holiday!
The Love to Read team

Sarah McGeown/Piglet (PI), Emily Oxley/Charlotte (Charlotte's Web) (Postdoctoral Researcher), Jessie Ricketts (Co-I), Laura Shapiro (Co-I), Christina Clark (National Literacy Trust), Megan Dixon, Helen Fairlie (Education Scotland), Katrina Lucas and Katherine Wilkinson (Scottish Book Trust).

