

Dressing Up Ideas for Parents



Some schools invite children to come to school in a costume for World Book Day because it's a fun way to encourage children (particularly reluctant readers) to engage with reading, to swap reading recommendations and to celebrate what they are reading at home.

There are lots of alternatives to dressing up. We suggest some [HERE](#)



Top tips for putting together a costume

- Choose a book your child is happy to talk about.
- Start with things you might already have – tracksuits, t-shirts (inside out to make them plain) and pyjamas make a good base for a costume.
- Focus on the parts of the character that make them stand out - use facepaint or simple props to show these.

What if I/my child....

....doesn't have a book to share?

Try a costume that invites recommendations – a t-shirt with post-it notes or one you don't mind being written on.

.... doesn't like dressing up?

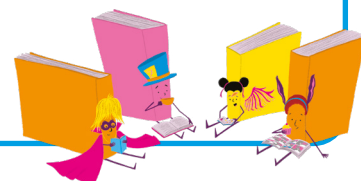
Keep it simple with a character who wears everyday clothes, by focussing on a prop, or by using a badge instead.

... likes non-fiction?

Focus on what they like – could they share a fact, or the subject matter, or do they want to focus on the author?

....aren't any good at crafting?

Stick to everyday clothes and add small details to focus on key elements of the character – hats, ears, sticking things on t-shirts etc.



Support
your child
to read for
pleasure...

Listen to books
being read aloud



Ask for ideas on
what to read next

Take books home
to read



Choose the
books YOU
want to read

**Find your reading
superpower**



Have fun reading!



Make time to read

PTA or Class Rep Member?

Can you support your school by:

- Organising a costume swap or costume making workshop.
- Putting together class dressing up rails.
- Hosting a school dressing up rail or costume swap.