

WHAT HAVE YOUNG PEOPLE BEEN SAYING ABOUT WORLD BOOK DAY?

Knowing the value of reading for pleasure for improved life chances and mental health and wellbeing, World Book Day - in partnership with the National Literacy Trust and Speakers for Schools' National Teen Book Club - have been engaging with teenagers about their barriers to it.

They identified:

- **Practical barriers** - increased schoolwork, leisure options and independence.
- **Intrinsic barriers** - reading confidence, preference for more social activities.
- **Extrinsic factors** - how to access books, perceived 'social capital' around reading.

The following statements from teens engaged in the research are typical of our results and how they relate to [Our Approach](#). Discuss how each statement relates to the students in your setting.



Being read to regularly	<i>I liked stories being read to me when I was younger.</i>
Having a choice in what to read	<i>There's definitely a gap in how easy it is to find books for teens because of our age... and what we're interested in. I like reading print (rather than digital) books but this means you have to find the book before you read it.</i>
Having trusted help to find a book	<i>I don't like books that are too long but want more than young kids themes. It would help if teachers would help us find books that we like and will read. I think opportunities for quiet reading at school and promoting lots of books of different genres that could be made immediately available to access (rather than just saying they are in a library for example) would be more effective than a message to read more.</i>
Designated time and space to read for choice	<i>I need it to be quiet to concentrate enough. My English teacher said I need to read a bit more but she said it once and never again. In high school there's lots more...educational reading, it took away the fun...I don't want to have that all the time, so I stopped at home.</i>
Making reading fun	<i>When you're gaming or doing something active you're doing it with people and having a laugh, whereas with books...you don't really do anything else.</i>

THINGS TO CONSIDER IN YOUR PLANNING:

- How can your World Book Day activities address the needs of your students?
- What support do staff need? Take a look at the [Activity Bank](#) for ideas!
- How will you involve students? Take a look at our [Plan Your Own World Book Day](#) resource.