



## How libraries and schools can help each other

### Public libraries helping schools

- Libraries are vast treasure houses of books.
- The extraordinary range of books available expands children's reading choices and confidence.
- Librarians know these books and can promote them effectively to even the most reluctant readers.
- Library staff:
  - inspire children to experiment with wider reading
  - know about trends in reading and what children are enjoying and will want to try next
  - are aware of the latest prize winning books and know about books in the media
  - can help children to access, use and enjoy reading websites and other resources
  - help students to understand how libraries work
  - can bring children together to share ideas and opinions about reading
  - can support whole families, helping them to share their books and reading with each other and give mutual support
  - can assist with homework queries and help children research the answers to their questions
  - can mount displays of students' work
  - can assist schools to make most effective use of the local School Library Service
  - have great ideas for reader development activities and projects.
- Libraries work directly with authors, storytellers, illustrators and publishers, and have links with local reading, writing and art groups.
- Joining the library helps children develop a sense of community and sharing. Libraries are great places to let the mind run free and develop creative thinking.

### Schools helping public libraries

- Schools help librarians reach children and discover what they want.
- They can help form focus or consultation groups of young people.
- They can share visiting authors, storytellers or illustrators.
- Schools help libraries to reach parents, especially non-users.
- They can help libraries contact families and follow up Bookstart and Bookstart Plus projects.
- They can promote special reader development campaigns, such as the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Schools can help libraries to promote news about children's books and reading (Children's Book Week, prize-winning books and authors).
- They are essential partners in reaching, developing and supporting young readers