

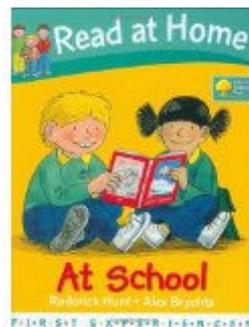
## Read at Home      At School

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Starting school is a big transition for both you and your child. However, for someone little with no pre-set ideas or knowledge about what 'school' is this could also be a bewildering concept for your child.

You can help your child to be excited, enthusiastic, curious and confident about starting school by reading books about starting school with them. Children have lots of transitions in their lives. Handling this transition to school sensitively will help your child to build resilience and to be ready to take on all that school has to offer.

Reading books together about starting school will allow your child the chance to start to form a picture about what school might be like and to ask you questions. Building your child's confidence and resilience in this way will help them to explore, access the activities on offer in school and find solutions. These form some of the basic skills needed to learn.



Read the story with your child. Sometimes children will need a story reading more than once before they remember it all.

### Activity 1:

Ask your child what their favourite part of the story was.

Ask them why they thought that Kipper wanted to put Little Ted in his bag? If they are not sure then you can make suggestions to start the conversation/idea sharing process. Where should Kipper have put Little Ted?

Allow time for your child to share any feelings that they have about starting school – are they excited or worried?

### Activity 2:

This book is part of the Oxford Reading Tree range. Your school may use this reading scheme. If so reading this book will not only give you the opportunity to talk to your child about starting school but, also you can familiarise yourself with some of the characters that will regularly appear in your child's reading books.

Talk to your child about the characters on pages 4 and 5.

Kipper, Dad and Floppy the dog appear on page 4.

Biff, Chip and Mum are on page 5.

If you and your child have enjoyed this book there are other free Oxford Reading Tree e-books available from: <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/find-a-book/library-page>

### Activity 3:

Talk to your child about Kipper taking Little Ted into school. As part of the Starting School Together pilot project your child will be given a Jofli Bear. The idea is that you and your child take photos, write/draw about what you do over the summer with Jofli in the logbook/diary that comes with the bear. Jofli will then go with your child for their first days in school as a familiar item from home. Jofli will also be a link for your child's key person in school to talk to your child about their summer so that they can start to form their key person relationship.



Check with your school teacher about their policy on bringing toys and comforters into school