

# Informal Book Talk

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## What is it?

Learner-led, relaxed conversations around reading. As a strand of Reading for Pleasure (RfP) pedagogy, it includes discussion about texts, choices, preferences, recommendations and more.

**N.B. Informal book talk is not 'activity driven.'**  
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## What's involved?

Spontaneity  
No assessment  
Social interaction  
Teachers as Readers  
Reader to reader chat  
Blethering about books in common

## Why do it?

To listen and learn  
To tempt children into reading  
To create reading communities  
To foster social motivation for reading  
To encourage children's reading for pleasure



## How and when?

Initially, **informal book talk** may be more teacher-led as readers are shown how to blether. Books in common can act as stepping stones towards more child-led conversations about text. Gradually, the opportunities will become more authentic reader to reader conversations, as children develop their agency and autonomy to informally talk about texts.

Book talk often emerges from **reading aloud** and **independent reading** time as part of RfP pedagogy (Cremin et al., 2014).  
You could try *Book Blankets*, *Carry and Chat* or *Book Bingo*.