

How have you used tech to support reading comprehension?

This morning, we've been looking at a reading comprehension and we've been using technology to support the children answering those particular questions. We were looking at retrieval within a non-fiction text and then the children were using a range of technology to support it. So we had 'Text Help' when they were reading through the actual comprehension. And this allowed the children to look and find out new vocabulary. So, if there was a word that they have never seen before, because we're using a non-fiction (text), there was lots of technical vocabulary, such as there was the word 'anemones'. Now, that's not normally a traditional word that we'd use in everyday language, so they were able to look it up, highlight it, and then they were able to have a picture dictionary, so it had like a widget, and they were able to decide what that word meant. And then they were able to add that meaning to the side of their text, which meant when they were answering the questions later on, they were able to refer back so they know exactly what that word meant.

So then what you can do is add it in there. So now when you read that word, you'll be able to look at the vocabulary on the side, won't you?

Yes.

The impact of using the technology means that all children are able to access the same text, even if they're working at different reading speeds, fluency, and also their current ability for where they came from.

I think quite a lot, because if I just don't understand a word, I can easily highlight it and search it out or do anything like that. And it's also helped me if I need a synonym...

So, some children would choose to listen to parts of the text if they were a bit unsure or they might have listened to the first paragraph and that helps with their fluency to speed themselves up a little bit. Whereas those who are pushing themselves and want a bit more of a challenge, they would purely just read it, and if they got stuck on a particular word, they were able to listen to it and then highlight it and understand those particular key vocabulary, especially if it's unfamiliar to them.

And we can add a little comment and then you can put your definition in there so you can come back to it later. But you might not want to type it. You can, what else can you do?

I can use the voice type over here. Also I can use it to type it easier and on here... 'complex- that's a complicated structure'.

And that helps you because sometimes if it's a word you, you've never heard before. You can say out loud, so then you can understand it and gain new vocabulary.