Independent Reading Time: Notes for PowerPoint

PowerPoint made by Teresa Cremin for the Open University's research-informed reading for pleasure development work. Please respect the copyright of the visuals and the slides and do not alter these slides, though do feel free to insert your own. There are 9 RfP PowerPoints on the site to support the profession.

The section of the website devoted to this includes:
- A self-review document
- Two mini-films of classroom practice with teacher commentary
- Practical classroom strategies (10 ideas)
- More research details (2 pages)
- Examples of Practice (from teachers)

Preparation before the meeting
a) Invite staff to come having observed their class during an IR.
b) Copy the grid (slide 6) and invite staff as they come in to complete their class entry.
c) Open https://researchrichpedagogies.org/research/theme/independent-reading

Discussion and activities during the meeting
- Slide 4: Invite staff to discuss in pairs where/when they read for pleasure and how they feel about this time to read newspapers, mags, websites, books etc.
- Slide 5: Answers: ERIC Everybody reading in class; DEAR Drop everything and read; SQUIRT Silent, quiet, uninterrupted reading time; USSR, Uninterrupted sustained silent reading. Discuss if these suit your IR time? Might you invent a new acronym?
- Slide 6: Using the grid invite staff to discuss in Year groups the timing and length of IR. Is it too short/long? Drawing on their observations what are the challenges?
- Slide 8: Discuss the questions, might some vary across Year groups/ the week?
- Slide 9: Watch the 3 minute clip and consider key messages re child ownership of their time. How is it different/similar to IR in your school? Any tweaks needed?
- Slides 10: How do staff facilitate informal talk linked to IR? Explore the possibilities and the advantages/ challenges.
- Slide 11: Invite staff to share how they tempt children to read particular texts ad help them make wise choices. What texts are available - do some offer comics and online reading?
- Slide 12: Watch the clip on helping children choose and discuss.

To close: Planning ahead to develop IR practices in school
- Slide 14: Discuss which aspects staff want to develop further individually or together.
- Hand out the Practical Classroom Strategies document from the site with 10 ideas.
- Set a time for sharing development work and consider placing these on the site.