TutorMate

About the project

Faber works with literacy charity TutorMate to support struggling primary school readers with one-on-one weekly support.

In my job I work on children's books for all ages every day so I was very excited to be able to help out as a TutorMate volunteer and actually work with the children themselves. TutorMate uses technology to enable its volunteers to support struggling readers on their special online platform. Every week I have been reading for thirty minutes with a child in a school in Bradford. The online platform has lots of specially created books at all different levels so you can always find a book of the right level with a topic that your child is interested in – though to be honest all the kids want to do is finish reading and get on to the games!

The system has three games you can play with the kids that both help them with reading and are lots of fun. In all parts of the system there are lots of ways to interact with the child and encourage them, from an animated dog saying 'well done' to letting them win the game three in a row . . . And it really works: the statistics show that TutorMate kids increase in ability, confidence and, most importantly, enjoyment of reading – something I'm very keen to encourage when my job relies on children reading books!

Natasha Brown
Project Editor/Assistant Editor, Faber Children's Books

faber

What they said

'My best part about reading is that I get smart and there's more books to read.'

'Amara has loved reading with you! I've noticed as her teacher that she's really grown in confidence. It's been fabulous!'
Class teacher to a Faber volunteer

'Your support has been absolutely fantastic – you've made a real difference to our children.'
Class teacher Rachel Lodge to all the volunteers

'My best part about reading is that I get smart and there's more books to read.'
Ayaan, supported by a Faber volunteer

'I like reading with you because it makes me happy. I like reading because it makes me calm.'
Issa, supported by a Faber volunteer

Children's names have been changed

faber