

Supporting your child with Reading and Phonics in the Early Years



What are Phonics?

- * Knowing that individual letters make their own sound (phoneme).
- * Knowing that each sound has a corresponding letter or group of letters (graphemes)
- * Understanding how digraphs and trigraphs work.- groups of two or three letters that make one sound (for example ea, ee, ay, ie, air, igh, ure,)
- * Recognising split digraphs a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e (e.g. cake, time, broke, flute, magic 'e' anyone?)
- * Blending together phonemes, digraphs and trigraphs to make whole words. (e.g. ch-air, b-l-ow, h-igh-er,)
- * Knowing that not all words can be easily decoded (was, want etc.)

What do we do in school?

- * Read Write Inc:
- * From Reception children begin learning the individual sounds, blending them and learning to recognise digraphs.
- * In Year 1 RWI continues helping children to learn sounds, using these confidently to develop into more fluent readers.
- * In Year 2 children develop an understanding of spelling patterns, identifying the different ways to spell each sound (ee, ea, y, e-e, e) using these more in their writing.

Frequently asked questions



- * **How do I support my child with their sounds?**

A: Model sounding out c-a-t cat, lets look at the first letter sound together what sound is it? If your child is tired you can point things out. 'Oh look that is a red word'.

- * **What is a red word?**

A: You cannot sound out a red word, they are all the non-decodable words . The, of, some, love...

Frequently asked questions

* **How often do I have to write in the reading diary?**

A: One comment once a week is ample, for other reads the date and signature is fine.

* **What do I write in the reading diary?**

A: Just write what your child has done - did they sound out?
Did they recognise any red words (ones you can't sound out)?
Did they talk about the pictures?

* **When does the reading diary have to come in?**

A: The reading diary should be kept in the book bag so that it is in school every day.

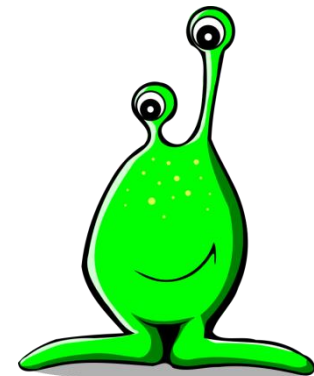


Frequently asked questions

* What is a nonsense word/alien word?

A: An alien word or a nonsense word is a word that you can sound out but has no meaning. For example, ip, tog, plurg. The children can apply the skill of sounding out and blending but the word doesn't make any sense

ip baf yed dop



Frequently asked questions

* **What support does my child get at school?**



A: All the children are in RWI groups according to their phonic ability, this allows the session to be pitched at the right level. All children read with the teacher/TA and are supported during that time. During adult led reading sessions the children will be supported by an adult. During learning time children are given the time to apply reading and writing skills independently. Some children who may need a little more help with their phonics will have the opportunity to work in an intervention group.

How do I support my child at home with their reading?



- * Regular reading no matter how small 10 minutes a day is ideal.
- * Let your child see you read different things e.g. recipes, books, newspapers etc.
- * Pick your best time! Don't get your child to read when they are tired
- * Do I only read books from school? No read a range of books, story, non-fiction, comics..
- * Reading is not only about books!
- * Join the library, they have lots of reading activities throughout the year
- * Useful websites- See school website for ideas
- * Games to play at home to encourage reading, board games, card games
- * Treasure hunt using sounds, red or green (decodable) words
- * Sound bingo
- * Treasure or trash, is the word real or alien?

How to prepare my child for Year 1 in reading and writing

- * A confident blender who is starting to blend words with more than 3 sounds e.g grand, pluck, trick, flump
- * A child who can read a simple sentence and understand what they have read
- * Be able to talk about the books they have read or listened to and answer questions
- * Writing a simple phrase that includes at least one red word e.g. I love mum, my dog is big
- * Be able to read what they have written.

