

Reading at home

Your child is learning to read with **Read Write Inc. Phonics**, a very popular and successful literacy programme. This information leaflet shows you how you can get your child off to a successful start, wherever they may be on their reading journey.

Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. He or she will learn to:

1. Read **letters** by their 'sounds'
2. Blend these sounds into **words**
3. Read the words in a **story**.

How will my child learn to read?

First, your child will learn to read:

- **Set 1 Speed Sounds:** these are sounds written with one letter: **m a s d t i n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v y w z x** and sounds written with two letters (your child will call these 'special friends') **sh th ch qu ng nk ck**
- Words containing these sounds, by sound-blending, e.g. m-a-t *mat*, c-a-t *cat*, g-o-t *got*, f-i-sh *fish*, s-p-o-t *spot*, b-e-s-t *best*, s-p-l-a-sh *splash*
- Blending Books and Red, Green and Purple Storybooks.

Second, he or she will learn to read:

- **Set 2 Speed Sounds:** **ay ee igh ow oo oo ar or air ir ou oy**
- Words containing these sounds
- Pink, Orange and Yellow Storybooks.

Your child will be taught to say the sound for the letter and not the letter name, so 'm' as in 'mat', not 'em'; 's' as in 'sun' not 'es'.

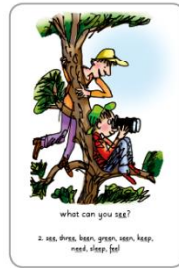
Then, he or she will learn to read:

- **Set 3 Speed Sounds:** **ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw are ur er ow ai oa ew ire ear ure**
- Words containing these sounds
- Blue and Grey Storybooks.

Helping your child read the Set 1, 2 and 3 Speed Sounds

Your child might bring home a *My Set 1 Speed Sounds Book* or a *My Sets 2 and 3 Speed Sounds Book*. (not all children will use these books)

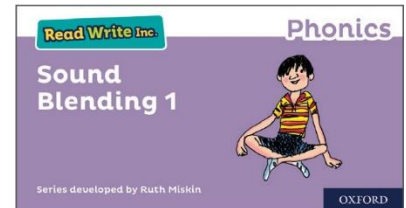
Each sound has a picture and phrase to help your child remember the sound. For example:



- the sound 'ee' has the phrase 'What can you see?' with a picture of two boys in a tree.
- Ask your child to flick through the book and read the sounds as quickly as he or she can. If your child hesitates reading a sound, the 'picture-sound' is on the back as a reminder. Your child can also practise writing the sound on the same page.

Helping your child read the Sound Blending Books

Once children are beginning to blend words, they will bring home a Sound Blending Book. Ask your child to read each word in sounds (Fred Talk) and then say the word. Then, he or she can turn over and check if they're right.

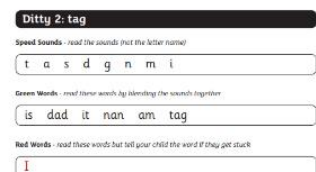


Reading Ditties

As soon as your child gains confidence blending words, he or she will work on ditties. These are short, simple captions made up of words using set 1 sounds.

Your child will practise reading ditties during their sessions and will bring home ditties throughout the week.

A brief explanation of how to use the ditties is included at the bottom of the sheet.



tag
dad is it

tag
nan is it

tag
I am it



Help your child read the Storybooks Black and White Storybooks

As soon as your child starts to read the *Read Write Inc. Phonics* Storybooks, he or she will bring home a black and white Storybook. This is a copy of the colour version he or she will have read at school. Some of the RWI books follow a 3-day programme and some follow a 5-day programme. Please keep the books in your child's book bag so that they can be changed as needed.

Your child will read this story throughout the week with their reading teacher, so should be able to read the story confidently.

A brief explanation of how to follow the activities is included in the books.



How to listen to your child read

- Do not read the book aloud before your child reads it to you.
- Ask your child to read the sounds and words before he or she reads the story.
- When your child reads the story, ask him or her to sound out the words that he or she can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when he or she succeeds.
- Read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving. (Your child's energy is going into reading the words not the story.)
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures.
- Do it all with patience and love!



We have a 'Reading for Pleasure' time every day at school so children develop a love of stories, poems and non-fiction books. We hope that you will do the same by reading a bedtime story to your child every night.