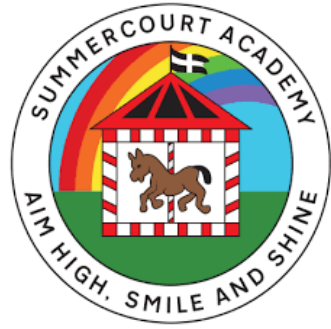


Reading at home



Your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. Phonics, a very popular and successful literacy programme. This first booklet shows you how you can get your child off to a quick start.

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 then 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.

Third, 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.

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'.

Help your child to read the sounds

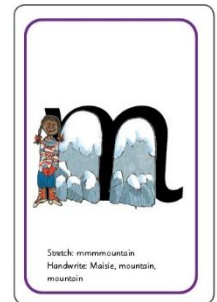
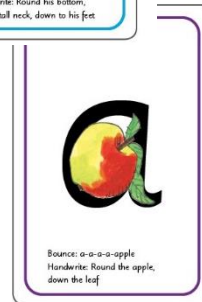
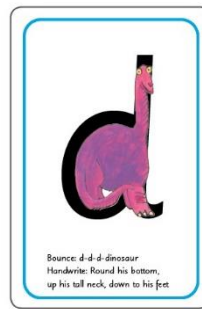
Before you get going, visit www.ruthmiskin.com/parents to practise saying the sounds clearly. The more clearly *you* say the sounds, the more quickly your child will learn them.

Your child will bring home My Set Speed Sounds Book

You'll see that each sound is drawn in the shape of a picture.

For example:

- 's' is in the shape of a snake
- 'd' is in the shape of a dinosaur
- 'a' is in the shape of an apple
- 'm' is in the shape of two mountains.



Important: We say 'mmm' not 'muh' and 'llll' not 'luh' when teaching the sounds. This really helps children when they learn to blend sounds together to read words.



Using the My Set 1 Speed Sounds Book

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.

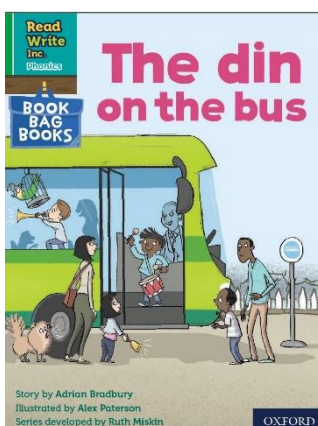
Help your child to read the Sound Blending books

Ask your child to read each word in sounds and then say the word blending the sounds together. Then, he or she can turn over and check if they're right.



Help your child to read the Story books and Book Bag Books

When your child is ready, they will move from Sound Blending books onto Red Books. As soon as your child starts to read the *Read Write Inc. Phonics* Storybooks, he or she will bring home copies of



the books shared at school. Your child will have read this story three or more times 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.



Your child may also bring home a Book Bag Book. This book builds upon the ideas and many of the words in the Storybook he or she has just read. Your child will need more support in reading this book. Again, explanations of how to use the activities are included in the books.

How to listen to your child read at home

- Ensure that your child reads the book to you first and then you can read it back to them with expression.
- 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!
- Reading daily is essential to build up fluency and accuracy for reading. The only way for your child to build their confidence in themselves as a reader is "practice".



We have several story times every day at school so children develop a love of stories. We hope that you will do the same by reading a bedtime story to your child every night. We have wonderful books in school for you to borrow from our Recommended Reads Box and your child will be able to choose books weekly.