

Reading in Year 1



Reading at home

Daily reading practice will help develop children's decoding and comprehension skills, although it is not expected that they will read a whole book every night. Children may only read three or four pages, but will spend longer discussing their understanding of what they have read in order to progress in developing their comprehension skills. We would encourage children to read a variety of texts on a regular basis, even taking opportunities to note and read texts in their environment such as road signs, leaflets, information posters, newspapers etc. Please feel free to share these experiences in their home school diaries and encourage them to share their opinions about the texts they have read.

Reading at school

At school, your child will have daily phonics lessons which will focus on learning letter sounds and how to blend them together to read full words. They will also read to an adult in their class during the week.

Your child's reading book will be changed once your child has read it over 2 consecutive days at home. This helps to develop accuracy and fluency. At times, your child may find certain sounds difficult, so may be asked to keep the book for another day or two so they can practice. However, if your child is reading more fluently, their book may be changed more often.

Please write a note in the home school diary to ask for your child's book to be changed.

Strategies for reading at home

Try to build this into your daily routine

- Have a set space you can read in
- Remember, both reading the school book and reading to your child are important

Before Reading:

If it is the first time your child has read the book, look at the cover and title with them to predict what they think the book might be about. Make links to other books read with similar themes, the same characters and/or similar authors/illustrators. Give them time to flick through the book (do a picture walk).

During reading:

- Ask your child many questions about the characters in the book as you read the story
- Have your child use his/her finger to follow the direction of the text (top to bottom, left to right)
- Have your child look at the sentences and see if he/she can identify any of the sounds in the words.
- Discuss the meaning of any unfamiliar words.



Reading Books

Over the next couple of weeks, your child will be coming home with some different books. They are explained below:

Read Write Inc books/Colour banded books:

These books are matched to the sounds which your child is learning in their phonics sessions. When children learn to read, they learn the letter sounds and then how to blend them together so they become fluent readers. These books should be read independently by your child, with some support from you at home - strategies can be found overleaf.

Library books:

Each week, Year One will have the opportunity to visit the school library and take out a book which they can take home to read. This book should be shared together as they are not matched to their phonics work.



How to help your child read a word:

- * Which letter sounds do you recognise
- * Can you blend them together?
- * Does the word make sense? Read the sentence again to check.
- * Is there another word that would make sense?
- * Is it a word you know?
- * Have you read the word before? Is it on another page?
- * Are there any bits of the word you recognise?
- * Are there any picture clues to help you?

Always go back and read the sentence again!

**If you have any questions,
please pop and speak to one of
the adults in the classroom.**

**The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.
-Dr. Seuss**



Great websites

• Kate Greenaway Medal and Carnegie Medal
<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/home/index.php>

• Book Trust - amazing site, book lists under categories, e.g. authors from different cultures, graphic novels, books about themes, e.g. love, environment, books featuring characters with disabilities, books for children with autism etc.
<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/children/booklists/>

• 'Books We Like'
<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-andreading/children/books-we-like/>

• 'Best Book Guide'
<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-andreading/children/best-book-guide/>

