

Reading at home

Booklet 1

Booklet 1 tells you how to help your child:

- Use Fred Talk to say sounds in words
- Read Set 1 Speed Sounds
- Blend sounds into words
- Learn the handwriting phrase for each letter



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:

Read **letters** by their 'sounds'

Blend these sounds into **words**

Read the words in a **story**.

How will my child learn to read?

Fred Talk

All the children have been introduced to a toy frog called Fred.

Fred can *only* say the sounds in a word and needs your child to help him say or read the word by blending the sounds together. When you hear your child say 'Fred Talk', you'll know this means sounding out the word.

Fred says the sounds and children work out the word.



First your child will be learning and practicing to orally blend sounds to say the whole word. Practice saying words in Fred Talk and then ask your child to blend the sounds to say what the word is e.g. d-o-g dog or j-a-m jam. Asking your child to also say the word in Fred Talk will help them to develop confidence when saying the individual sounds in words.

Attached is a list of Fred games that you could play together.

Choose simple words to say in Fred Talk e.g. cat, dog, bed, rat, jam, peg, sat, log.

Your child will move onto blending sounds together by reading words when they learn more letters.

Speed Sounds

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

Sounds written with two letters. Your child will call these 'special friends'.

sh th ch qu ng nk ck

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'.

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.

Before you get going, watch our video about saying the sounds to ensure you use the correct pronunciation.

The more clearly you say the sounds, the more quickly your child will learn them.

Stretchy and bouncy sounds

Some sounds can be stretched, e.g. lll, mmm, nnn, fff.

Some sounds can't be stretched so we bounce the sound, e.g. c-c-c, p-p-p.

Some sounds we can sing (voice), e.g. mmm, nnn.

Some sounds we can't sing but only say (unvoiced sounds), e.g. ffff, sssss, t-t-t.

Help your child read the Set 1 Speed Sounds

Your child will be sent via Tapestry:

My Set 1 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.

For each letter there is also a handwriting phrase, this is also shown in the speed sounds booklet. Your children will learn these in school so help them to practice these at home by saying the phrases as your child writes letters.

Using the Set 1 Speed Sounds book

For each letter the booklet first shows just the letter and the next page shows the picture that is linked to that letter and the handwriting phrase.

1. Ask your child to say the name of the picture e.g. a-a-a-apple, ssssnake.
2. Help your child to say the sound for each picture, e.g. 's' for the snake.
3. Help your child to say the sounds (using just the letter). Try to get quicker each time. If he or she forgets, use the picture to help. When your child can say the letter sounds on their own increase the speed!



Reading at home

We have a storytime 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 that your child can take home to share with you.

Read stories to your child with feeling! The more you love the story, the more your child will love reading.

We will send home more information about reading at home and this can also be found in your child's reading log and on our school website in our Reading Policy.

Glossary

- **Fred Talk** – sounding out the word before reading (blending)
- **sound-blending** – putting sounds together to make a word, e.g. c-a-t cat
- **special friends** – sounds written with more than one letter, e.g. sh, ng, qu, ch
- **Speed Sounds** – the individual sounds that make up words