

Reading at home

Year 1 and 2 guidance

This booklet tells you how to help your child:

- Understand what Fred Talk is and how it will help your child to read
- Read Set 1, Set 2 and Set 3 Speed Sounds
- Blend sounds into words
- Learn the handwriting phrase for each letter



We are now using *Read Write Inc. Phonics*, a very popular and successful literacy programme to help your child to develop as a reader.

This booklet shows how you can support your child at home. It will also help to understand some of the new terminology that is used with this programme and some of the new sounds that your child will be taught.

In Term 1 your child has been assessed on their current phonic knowledge so we can support them further in school. Your child's class teacher will be able to share with you what your child is working on in school so that you can support further at home and this will form part of the home learning.

There is a dedicated area on our school website in Curriculum Support where you can find more information about Read Write Inc.

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. You may hear your child say 'Fred in your head'. This encourages children to sound out the word in their head before reading the word aloud.



Speed Sounds

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 (shop) th (thick) ch (chip) qu (queen) ng (sing) nk (think) ck (pack)

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.

Watch our video about saying the sounds to ensure you use the correct pronunciation. This is available on the school website.

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

Set 2 Speed Sounds:

ay (play) ee (see) igh (high) ow (snow) oo (zoo) oo (look) ar (car) or (door) air (fair) ir (whirl) ou (shout) oy (toy)

Set 3 Speed Sounds:

ea (tea) oi (spoil) a-e (cake) i-e (smile) o-e (phone) u-e (huge) aw (yawn) are (care) ur (nurse) er (letter) ow (cow) ai (snail) oa (goat) ew (chew) ire (fire) ear (hear) ure (pure)

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 Speed Sounds

Your child will be sent via Class Dojo:

My Set 1 Speed Sounds Book and My Set 2/3 Speed Sound book.

You will see that for Set 1 sounds each sound is drawn in the shape of a picture.

For example:

- 's' is in the shape of a snake



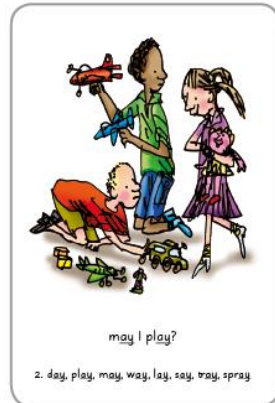
- 'd' is in the shape of a dinosaur
- 'm' is in the shape of two mountains.

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.

For Set 2/3 sounds you will see that there is a picture and a phrase for each sound:

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

- the sound 'ay' has the phrase 'May I play?' with a picture of children playing together
- the sound 'ee' has the phrase 'What can you see?' with a picture of two boys in a tree.



Using the My Sets 2 and 3 Speed Sounds Book

Ask your child to look through the book and read the sounds as quickly as he or she can. If your child hesitates reading a sound, the picture is on the back as a reminder. Your child can also practise writing the sound.

At present the focus for your child is on the revision and new learning for all the Set 1, 2 and 3 sounds. After this your child will move onto storybook lessons and will bring home books linked to the sounds they are learning and revising in school.

Reading at home

We have a story time 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.

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

More information about reading at home 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