



# Welcome!

## Learning to read - a parents guide



# Our aim

In Reception our main aim for reading is for the children to develop a love of books.

This is why we provide children with a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books so that they can explore different stories and themes and spark interests and discussions. We also share stories daily and read interactive digital stories together.

For children to develop a love of books the pressure needs to be taken away from learning to read so that the children can move at their own pace and find it an enjoyable experience.

# Reading area

In class we have two reading areas that have cosy cushions and seating so that the children have a comfortable environment to enjoy stories. If children relate a comfortable environment to reading then it can make them more relaxed about the process of learning to read.

It is also important for children to have a comfortable place to reading at home so they can continue to develop their love of reading outside of school.

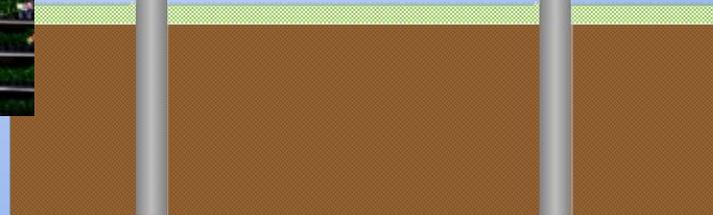


# The environment

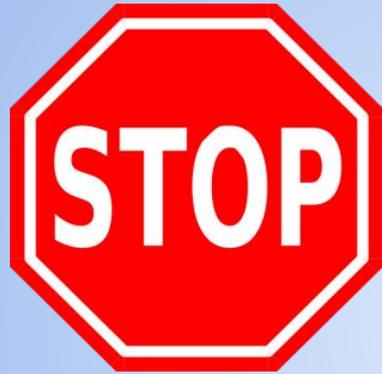
It is important for children to understand that text is not only in books, that it can be found everywhere. This helps them to understand that words have meanings.



HENLEY VIEW



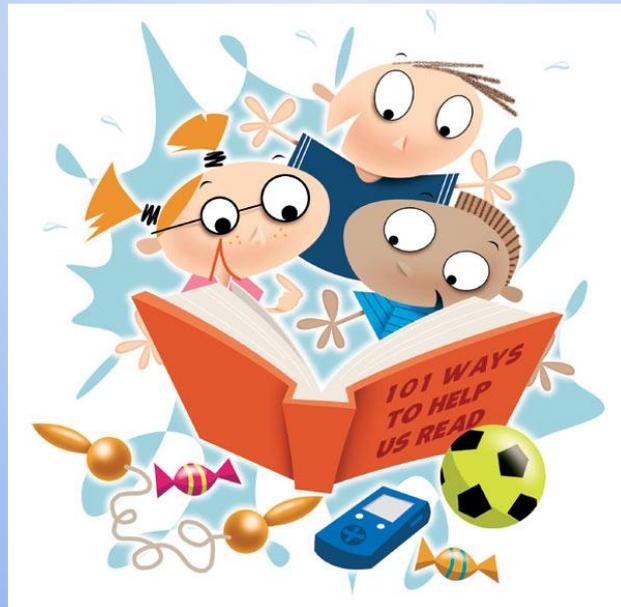
Wherever you are be word detectives, this will make it exciting for the children. Look out for words on signs, packaging, television etc.



Set challenges for finding words and sounds in places. If children are aware of the print around them it can make seeing the words on the page of a book less daunting when it comes to the reading process.

# Learning to read

For most children the reading process begins with learning the sounds that letters make and then how to put them together to read words.



Being able to hear the sounds within words is the starting point of linking letters to their sounds. This can be encouraged through games such as:

- I spy
- Alphabet games
- Sounding out words in conversation
- Sound bingo
- Singing nursery rhymes and Jolly Phonics Songs

Also use lots of praise to develop children's confidence when they are doing well but most importantly praise their efforts, how hard they are working, how long they have concentrated. Also praise the children for not giving up and for having another go. Ask the children for help. This shows them that it is ok to ask for help and they will love to play the part of Teacher.

# Help to develop your child's reading at home

- Talk about the books.
- Check your child is following what you/they are reading by asking open questions.
- Allow your child to re-read/re-tell favourite and familiar stories.
- Encourage children to retell stories in their own words.
- Write labels on drawings to show words belong to things.
- Let children see that you enjoy reading.
- Cbeebies Storytime app.

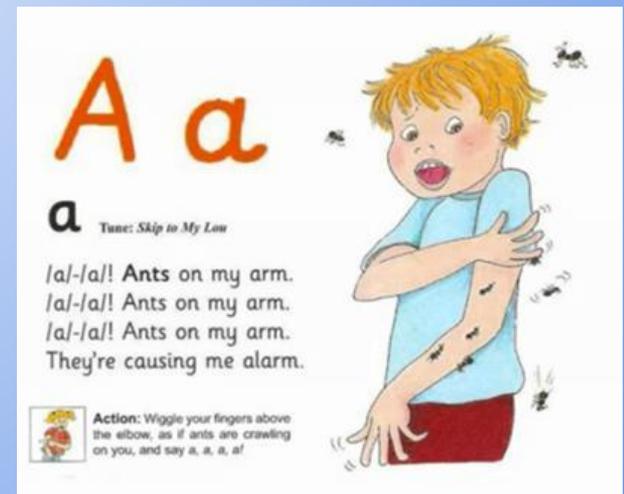


# Phonics

We have phonics for 20 minutes every day where we practice learning our sounds.

- Listening and identifying sounds.
- Developing an understanding of the shapes of letters to help with letter formation and identification.
- Learning the names and sounds that letters make.
- Segmenting- Breaking down the word to help identify it.
- Blending- Building the word so that it can be read.
- Learning tricky words.

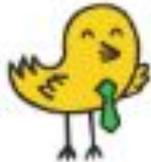
**There is a video on YouTube of all the songs!**



a



b



c



ck



d



e



f



ff



g



h



i



k



l



ll



m



n



o



p



r



s



ss



t



u



## Tricky words

The children will also be learning tricky words which are words that can't be spelt phonetically.

For example go, we, all, are.

At home you could play games like tricky word hunt and tricky word snap.

Constantly review the words your child already knows.

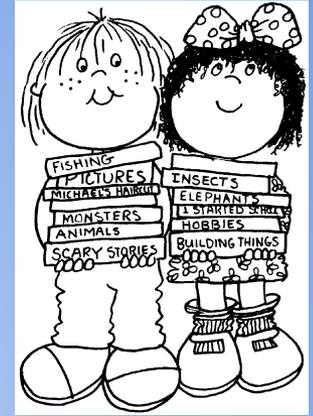
## Reading with your child

Even when your child can read it is still important to read stories to them. This can introduce them to new words and helps them to pick up the elements of effective reading (pace, expression and flow).



# Reading books

Soon the children will be sent home with a reading book.



Some of the reading books have no words. This is to encourage children to use the pictures to create their own stories and develop an understanding of story structure.

The home communication book will also act as a reading journal, whereby you will write when and what you have read with your child.

Happy reading!!