



Eppleton Academy Primary & Nursery  
School ....learning for life

# Learning to read

at

Eppleton Academy Primary School  
& Nursery



# Everything starts with reading!

"Reading is fundamental to education. Proficiency in reading, writing and spoken language is vital for pupils' success. Through these, they develop communication skills for education and for working with others: in school, in training and at work. Pupils who find it difficult to learn to read are likely to struggle across the curriculum, since English is both a subject in its own right and the medium for teaching."

**The Reading Framework - Teaching the Foundations of Literacy**

**Department for Education, 2021**

# Everything starts with reading!

EYFS Statutory Educational Programme:

It is crucial for children to develop a **life-long love of reading**. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) starts from birth. It only develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together. Skilled word reading, taught later, involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words.

## How do children learn to read at Eppleton Academy Primary School?

Your child is learning to read with **Read Write Inc. Phonics**, a very popular and successful synthetic programme taught daily in school.

Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. They will learn to:

- **Hear** sounds and blend them to **say** words (oral blending)
- Read **letters** by their 'sounds'
- Blend these sounds into **words**
- Read the words in a **story**.

**Read Write Inc.**  
**Phonics**

# How will my child learn to read?

**First, they will listen to sounds and blend them together to say words:**

## **Fred Talk:**

Speaking like Fred helps children to understand that words are made up of sounds. We use Fred Talk throughout the day to help children practise blending sounds together.

### Fred says...

- Say: Fred says put your hands on your h-e-d. Ask children to repeat. Pause to allow children to jump in with the whole word and do the action.
- Say: h-e-d, hed. Ask children to repeat.



### Fred I spy

- Say: Fred says 'I spy something r-e-d' Ask children to repeat. Pause to allow children to 'jump-in' with the whole word and point to something red.
- Say: r-e-d, red. Ask children to repeat.

### Fred's fridge

Milk m-i-l-k, juice -j-oo-s; cream c-r-ee-m; eggs e-g-s; corn c-or-n; grape g-r-ay-p; pear p-air; peas p-ee-z;  
leek l-ee-k

Use Fred Talk for single syllabic words at the end of sentences throughout the day.

E.g. It is time for l-u-n-ch...lunch, come and sit on the f-l-oor...floor.

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OPDRTBXw/cubHOECX>

# How will my child learn to read?

Next, your child will learn to read:

Set 1 Speed Sounds: these are sounds written with one letter:

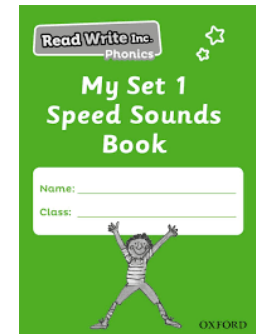
m a s d t i n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v

y w z x

and sounds written with two letters (your child will call these 'special friends'):  
sh th ch qu ng nk ck

***Help your child read the Set 1 Speed Sounds using the booklet we provided***

Before you get going, visit [www.ruthmiskin.com/parents](http://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.



# How will my child learn to read?

Your child will be taught to say the sound for the letter and not the letter name, so 'm' as in mat, not 'em'.

We say 'mmmm' not 'muh' and 'llll' not 'luh' when teaching the sounds. This really helps children when learning to blend.

Your child will get a reading book to bring home when they are able to blend sounds and recognise letters. They will start with sound blending books then move onto red books.



# How will my child learn to read?

Then, they 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.



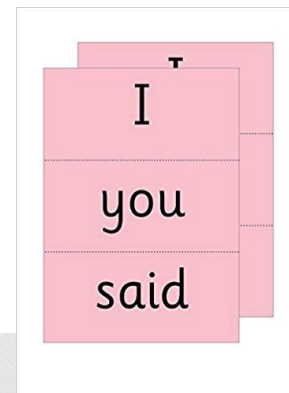
After that they will learn to read:

- 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.



# A typical Read Write Inc. Lesson

- Hear and say the sounds
- Picture cards
- Letter shape and rhyme
- Letter formation
- Fred Talk (oral blending)
- Blending using cards
- Green words
- Red words

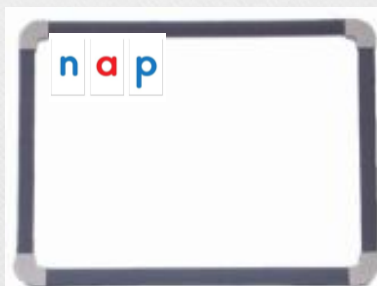
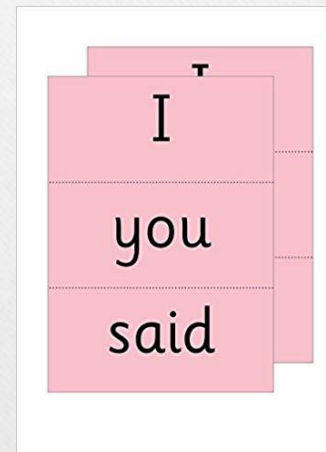


# Reading and spelling

at ..	mad ..
sad ..	dad ..
sat ..	mat ..

**Green words** are decodable: children can sound them out and blend the sounds together to read words

**Red words** are not decodable: they are words that contain irregular spelling patterns and must be learned.



**Blending** with letter tiles - pushing letters together to spell words

# How can I help my child learn to read?

## *Help your child to read words*

Once your child can read Set 1 Speed Sounds confidently, he or she can learn to read words. You can help your child to read and write words by following these steps:

Point to and say the sounds, and then say the word. Ask your child to copy you.

Muddle up letter cards. Ask your child to make the word again, and then point to and say the sounds.

Repeat with more 3-sound words, including some containing sounds made up of more than one letter (special friends), e.g. ch-a-t, sh-i-p, th-i-s.

- Put out three cards. This time, ask your *child* to say the sounds. Help them to blend the sounds into the words, until your *child* can read without your help.



# Reading Books

- Reading books sent home should be read at least 3 times:
  - learn
  - practise
  - perfect
- They will keep the same book for one week.
- Please write comments in your child's book. Reading books will match the books read in school.



# Remember!

Every child is unique. They all learn at different rates so teaching and learning is tailored to individuals.

The most important thing is that children have fun and enjoy reading!



# Useful websites

- [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)
- [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

(no need to sign up just access free resources)