

**Read Write Inc.**

**Phonics**

# **Learning to read in Reception Parent Talk**

East Sheen Primary School

October 2025 - Miss Matthews



# How we teach reading at East Sheen Primary School

Your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. Phonics, a very popular and successful literacy programme.

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

- Read letters by their 'sounds'
- Blend these sounds into words
- Read the words in a story

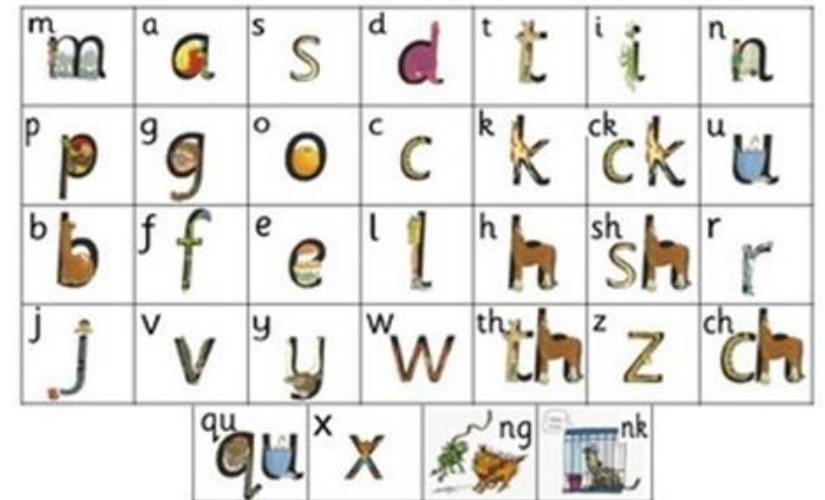


# How will my child learn to read...

First, your child will learn to read:

- Set 1 Speed Sounds: these are the 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 with two letters (your child will call these 'special friends'): **sh qu th ng ch nk ck**
- Words containing these sounds, by sound-blending, e.g. m-a-t *mat*, c-a-t *cat*, g-o-t *got*, f-i-sh *fish*
- Blending Books, Ditty Stage, Red, Green and Purple Storybooks
- We aim for Reception children to be on Green stage by the end of the school year (July).

*Set 1 Sounds*



# How will my child learn to read...

Second, 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

## *Set 2 Sounds*

 ay	 ee	 igh	 ow	 oo	 oo
 or	 ar	 air	 ir	 ou	 oy

# How will my child learn to read...

Third, 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

## *Set 3 Sounds*

 ea cup of tea	 oi spoil the boy	 a-e make a cake	 i-e nice smile	 o-e phone home
 u-e huge brute	 aw sawn at dawn	 are race and chase	 ur purr for a murk	 er better letter
 ow brown cow	 ai swal in the sun	 oa goat in a boat	 ew cheer the steer	 ire fies, first
 ear hear with your ear	 ure taste it's pure	 tion pay attention it's a requirement	 clouds clouds	 delicious delicious

# Reading Colour Levels

Prior to starting the colour levels, there are a series of blending books



# Help your child to read the Set 1 sounds

It is really important that you are saying the sounds correctly and clearly. The more clearly that you say the sounds, the more quickly your child will learn them.

Important! We say 'mmmm' not 'muh' and 'lllll' not 'luh' when teaching the sounds. This really helps children when they learn to blend sounds to read words.

Your child will bring home the Set 1 Speed Sounds cards sheet. 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 and 'm' is in the shape of two mountains.

They can practise saying the sound, as well as the word picture.



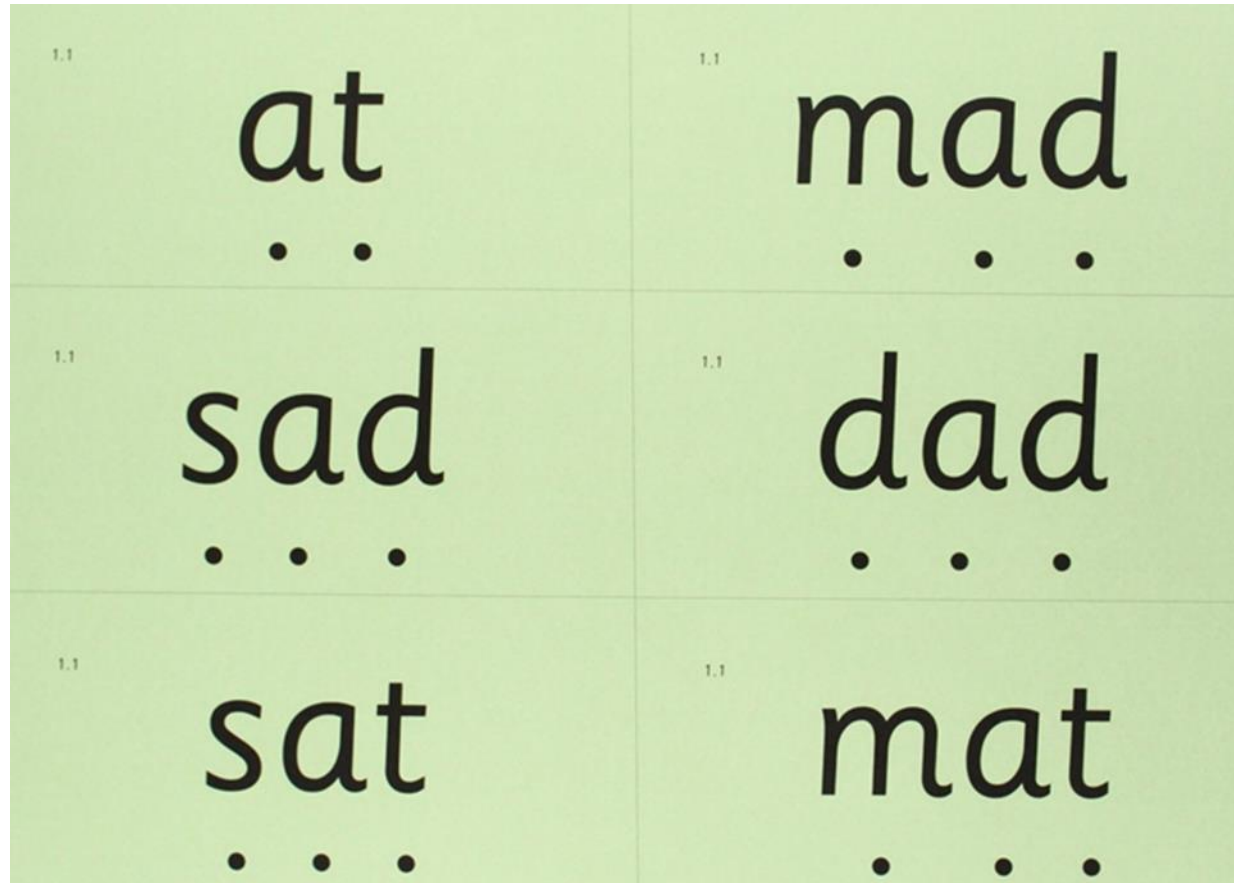
# Help your child to read words

Once your child can read Set 1 Speed Sounds confidently, he or she can learn to read words. First, your child is introduced to a toy frog called Fred. Fred can only say the sounds in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. So, 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.

# Green words - sound buttons (Fred Talk)



# Help your child to read words

1. Make up a word with three sound cards that your child can read quickly, e.g. c-a-t.



Point to and say the sounds, and then say the word. Ask your child to copy you. Muddle up the 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, e.g. ch-a-t, sh-i-p

2. Put out three cards. This time, ask your child to say the sounds. Help them to blend the sounds into words, until your child can do it without your help.
3. Repeat with some 4-sound words, e.g. b-l-i-p, f-r-o-g, s-t-o-p.

# Help your child to read words - Red words

## Red Words

I

said

This is Red Hat Rob.



"I will grab that cash box," he said.

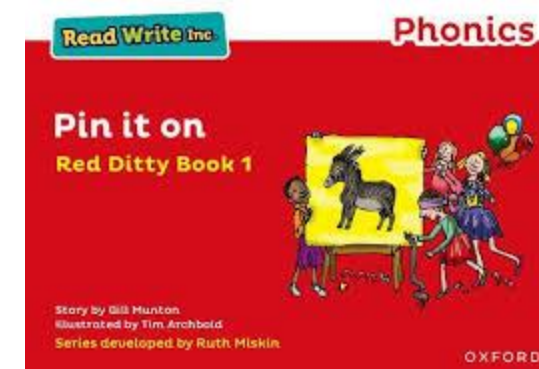
# Help your child read the sound blending books

Ask your child to read each word in sounds (Fred Talk) and then say the word. Then, they can turn over and check if they're right.



# Help your child read the ditty books

- Ask your child to say the speed sounds (Set 1 Sounds)
- Ask your child to read the green words, first in Fred Talk and then say the word
- Ask your child to sound out (use Fred Talk) to read the words in the ditties
- Repeat for Ditties 1, 2 and 3
- Ask your child questions from the back of the Ditty book
- Speedy read the Green Words on the last page



# Help your child read the story books

As soon as your child starts to read the *Read Write Inc. Phonics* Storybooks, he or she will bring home a copy. A brief explanation of how to support your child reading it and following the activities is included in the books.



# How to listen to your child read

- Allow your child to read the book to you first, do not read it to them first (levelled RWI books)
- Ask your child to read the sounds and words before they read the story to you
- When your child reads the story, ask them to sound out the words they can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when he/she succeeds
- Read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures
- Do it all with patience and love
- Reading can be little and often and should be enjoyable for all.



# How to listen to your child read

We have 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 evening. We have wonderful books for you to borrow if you'd like to.

This week we will be completing Phonics Assessments, then issuing levelled reading books for children after half term. They will be given a plastic reading folder which will contain –

- Yellow reading log (please write comments or sign to say you've read with your child each day)
- Levelled RWI reading book, as well as a 'My Set 1 Speed Sounds Book'.
- Shared reading book (child is not expected to be able to read this independently, instead is a book to share and enjoy that you read to them)
- Letter formation RWI sayings
- Speed Sound Set 1 chart
- Red words
- WOW cards!
- Microsoft Teams log in details
- Numberbots log in
- Number cards (for recognition)
- Number formation cards

# Glossary

**Fred Talk** – sounding out the word before reading (blending)

**Green words** – words that can be sounded out using ‘Fred Talk’

**Red words** – words which cannot be sounded out, need to be learnt by sight (memory) e.g. she, I, go

**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

**Speed Sounds** – the individual sounds that make up words

# RWI Website

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>

has many videos to help you help your child.

# RWI Website

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## Online resources available

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Ruth Miskin Parents' Page:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/parents/>

Ruth Miskin Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

Free e-books for home reading:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>

# Reading at home QR code



Any questions?

