

Parent and Carer Information

English Year 1/2

How to help your child to read in Year 1/2!

Phonics:

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. They are taught how to: - recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes; - identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make such as /sh/ or /ee/; and - blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word.

Tips to help your child read using phonics!

- Rather than saying the letter name – say the letter sound
- Ask your child to name as many things they can think of starting with the sounds you're working on
- If there is an unfamiliar or unknown word, help your child to blend the phonemes together to read the word

Phonics activities

- Singing nursery rhymes with your child is a great way of getting children to repeat and retain the sounds of words.
- Read with your child sounding out the words and letters together.
- Sing the alphabet with your child
- Play "I Spy" to help your child remember individual phonemes.

Useful words when helping your child with phonics!



Phoneme - A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word. It is generally accepted that most varieties of spoken English use about 44 phonemes.

Grapheme – A grapheme is a letter or group of letters representing a sound.

Blending - Merging the individual phonemes together to read a word.

Digraph - This is when two letters come together to make a phoneme. For example, /oa/ makes the sound in 'boat' and is also known as a vowel digraph. There are also consonant digraphs, for example, /sh/ for ship and /ch/ for chick.

Homographs - Words that have the same spelling but differ in meaning and pronunciation, for example, a row of chairs or a row like an argument.

Homophones - Words with common pronunciations but different spellings, for example, to / two / too or there / their.

Syllable - One or more letters representing a unit of spoken language consisting of a single uninterrupted sound.

Reading:

- Can your child read a variety of text types?
- Can your child find and retain information they have found in fiction and non-fiction books?



Rex Retrieval helps you find information!

*Find out the meaning
of words with
Vocabulary Victor!*



Vocabulary:

- Can your child read words which contain suffixes? E.g -ment, -ful, -ness
- Can your child read a wider range of 'common exception words'? These are frequently used words that cannot be decoded by phonics.

Prediction:

- Prediction means guessing what will happen next in the story.
- Can your child use the information they have been given to guess what might happen next?

*Foretell what will
happen next in the
story with Petunia
Prediction*



*Put
everything
in order
with Sally
Sequence*



Sequence:

- Can your child put the events from the story in order?
- Does your child understand the beginning, middle and the end?

Bonus!

Bonus!

Bonus!

*Inference:
a bonus
skill!*



Inference:

- Can your child use clues from the text to understand how a character is feeling?