

Seymour Primary School



How to Help Your Child with Reading

Key Stage 1



Read, Write Inc.



This is Fred Frog he helps the children to sound out words.

In Key Stage 1 we teach children how to read words by using the synthetic phonics program Read, Write, Inc. The program begins by teaching children the sound that each letter makes and how to blend them together.

Once the children have learnt the main sounds for each letter they begin to look at the sound made by groups of letters.

For more information about Read, Write Inc. please contact the office and ask to make an appointment with Mrs Sadler (Read, Write Inc. Manager)

How Children Learn to Read

Children often learn stories and rhymes off by heart. When reading children rely a lot on memory, they appear to be reading when they have really remembered the pattern of the story. This is not cheating! It shows us that your children are on the way to becoming a reader as they are making the connection between print and a story. They may also use the pictures to help them remember.

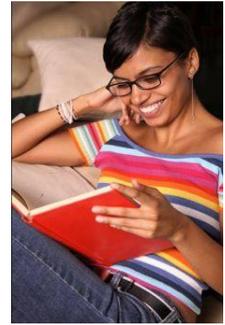


Children will often want to read their favourite book over and over again. This shows that they are enjoying the story and getting pleasure from reading. If this does become too much for you offer to read their favourite and one of your favourites too!

Children also love to read comics, magazines and recipes.

How You Can Help

Model a love of reading with your child – let children see that you value books. Seeing adults enjoying reading from books, newspapers, magazines, recipes or menus will make children want to read themselves



Keep their books safe and encourage children to have a special place where their books can be stored. Show them how to turn the pages carefully.

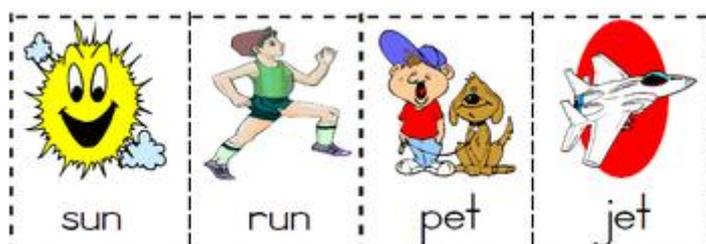


Children learn from the world around them and from seeing labels, notices and signs which are written in print. Encourage children to look for words they know all around them.

Make time to read with your child and hear them read. Encourage them to share reading with friends, grandparents, brothers, sisters and other family members. Try to provide a peaceful atmosphere with no distractions so that children can fully enjoy listening to, or reading, a book.



Practise the sounds of language – read books with rhymes. Teach your child rhymes, short poems and songs. Play simple word games e.g. How many words can you make up that sound like the word cat?



How You Can Help

Help your child take spoken words apart and put them back together. Help your child separate the sounds in words – they can show you how to use ‘Fred Fingers’ to help! Listen for the beginning and the end sounds and put separate sounds.



Let children have time to attempt words they are unsure of before you give them the word. Help them to get the initial sound or try breaking the word into smaller sections. If your child is struggling, give them the word but encourage them to reread the sentence correctly to reinforce the new word they have learnt and hear themselves successfully reading the new sentence.



Practise the alphabet by pointing out letters whenever you see them! Practise the sounds those letters make too. You could reinforce the letters and sounds your child is learning by cutting out letters and pictures of things that begin with that sound.

Join your local library – children can have access to hundreds of good quality books, both fiction and non-fiction...and it's free!



Play ‘I spy’ – it’s a good way of showing that every word begins with a letter. You can also play games where children identify the odd one out in a list like cat, mat, dot, rat.

Talking About Books

Talk with your child about what is going on in a book or story. Here are some questions you could ask.

Fiction Books:

- Which character did you like best?
- Why do you think the character did that?
- Where does the story take place?
- What did he/she/it look like?
- Where did he/she/it live?
- How did you feel during different parts of the story, what made you feel like this?
- What part of the story did you like/dislike the most, why?

Non-Fiction Books:

- What have you learnt from this book?
- Who do you think would find this book interesting?
- How would you use the index page to find something out?
- Do you think this book could be better, why?
- Did you find the pictures, diagrams and photographs helpful?

Poetry:

- What is the poem about?
- What did you like/dislike about the poem?
- Did the poem make you feel a certain way?
- What were your favourite words/lines in this poem?

Reading is one of the most valuable and rewarding skills your child will learn. We believe that children who read regularly to an adult at home, make greater and quicker progress in the development of their reading and comprehension skills. Any time you can spend hearing your child read will provide valuable support to their learning.

Some useful websites:

www.educationcity.com

www.bbc.co.uk

www.starfall.com

www.literacytrust.org.uk

www.love2read.co.uk

We hope that this leaflet has been useful. For more support or information about helping your child with their reading please contact the school office and ask to speak to:

Mrs Sadler – Read, Write Inc. Manager

Miss Hook – Assistant Headteacher

