

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



Reading and Phonics

Teaching children to read

The early stages of learning to read are so important for your child's development. We want you as a parent to be as involved as possible in being part of their reading journey. Our aim is to support all parents in gaining confidence to support their child in practising reading at home. We hope you find the guide below useful and please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like further information.

Phonics

At Fradley Park Primary and Nursery School, we use **Little Wandle** as our systematic synthetic phonics programme for early teaching of reading and writing. Phonics is making connections between the sounds of our spoken words and the letters that are used to write them down. Our phonics teaching follows the cycle of revisit and review, teach, practise and apply. Our aim is to teach children to sound out and blend in order to read words.

Revisit and Review

Quick flash review. Each session will begin by rapidly revisiting any sounds that have been previously taught.

Teach and Practise

The session will move onto introducing the new sound and practising pronouncing it. Within the teach and practise section, children will be given the opportunity to form

the sound, match to the letter, oral blending of the sound in words, teacher led blending words and the exposure of tricky words.

Examples of this are:

- Timed reading of GPCs/words/tricky words.
- Reading words quickly: ask children to find the digraph and then read the word fluently.
- Reading longer words using the chunking method. Aim to read some longer words fluently each time.
- Oral blending throughout the day
- Teacher- led blending throughout the day

Practise and Apply

Children now have the opportunity to play games to use the new sound in action and apply it into reading and writing words.

Blending to read words

Some children learn to blend really quickly, and others take a little longer. If your child is finding it difficult, ask your child's teacher for ways to help at home.

See the link below for some great ideas:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Reading and Spelling

This is an example of what the children learn in Year 1. Children learn that there are graphemes that can have different sounds and sounds that can be made with different letters.

Reading and spelling



And all the different ways to write the phoneme sh:

<u>sh</u> ell	cap <u>sh</u> ion
<u>sch</u> ef	man <u>sh</u> ion
spe <u>sh</u> ial	pass <u>sh</u> ion

When spelling, children are taught to do the following

Spelling

- Say the word.
- Segment the sounds.
- Count the sounds.
- Write them down.



Terminology

Below are words that your children will become familiar with as they are taught the phonics programme.

Grapheme – The letter or letter group which is the sound (phoneme) written down

Phoneme – The smallest unit of sound that can be identified in words

Blending – When reading a word, identify the graphemes in the word and say the corresponding sounds in order to hear the word as a whole e.g. read cat c- a- t.

Segmenting – When spelling a word, break it down into the sounds you hear and write the grapheme for each identified sound e.g. say shop = writing c- a- t.

Decode – Breaking a word down into sounds to be able to read it.

Encode – Breaking a word down into sounds to be able to spell it.

Digraph – When two letters make one sound when they are together e.g. Shop.

Trigraph – When three letters make one sound when they are together e.g. night.

Split digraph – When two letters that are “split” by having another letter in the middle of them e.g. a_e in game or i_e in tide.

Tricky words – These are words that the children won’t have been taught to decode yet as they haven’t learnt the spelling rule. Therefore, they will be taught to read them by sight.

Supporting your child with reading

Reading is our main priority in school. Alongside this, you can have a huge impact on your child’s reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

Your child will bring home two types of reading books:



Reading Practice Book

This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. Children need regular opportunities to apply the phonics they have learned to reading fully decodable books.

To check if your child is reading the correct book, they should be able to:

- Know all the sounds and tricky word in the book.
- Read many of the words automatically
- Only need to stop and sound out around 5% of the words.

This will be dependent on the child's year group; Reception children will need to sound out more as they start their reading journey. Please listen to your child read their book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Sharing Books

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. Continue to read books that your child enjoys to them.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read every book alone. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

The Collins Big Cat eBook library

Access to our e-book library brings reading to life in school and at home with a range of more than 1000 books matching the phonics phase your child is being taught in school.

This range includes fiction and non-fiction texts.

Your child will be able to access books that are fully decodable to their stage of learning and ones that have been assigned by their class teacher.

Resources

Below are some resources to help you support your children with early reading and writing at home. Phonics is taught in phases starting in reception. Your child should bring home some resources that inform you of the phase they are on.

[For parents - Letters and Sounds \(littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk\)](http://littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)