

Glossary

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

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, qu, ch**

Speed Sounds – the individual sounds that make up words



Read stories to your child with feeling! The more you love the story, the more your child will love reading.

Booklet 1 tells you how to help your child:

- read Set 1 Speed Sounds
- blend sounds into words
- read Red, Green and Purple Storybooks.

www.ruthmiskin.com/parents has many videos to help you help your child.

For more information on *Read Write Inc.*, please talk to the *Read Write Inc.* manager in your child's school or visit www.readwriteinc.com.

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Read Write Inc.

Phonics

Reading at home Booklet 1

Your child is learning to read with *Read Write Inc. Phonics*, a very popular and successful literacy programme. This **first booklet** shows you how you can get your child off to a quick start.

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

1. Read **letters** by their 'sounds'
2. Blend these sounds into **words**
3. Read the words in a **story**.



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How will my child learn to read?

First, 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
- 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*,
s-p-o-t *spot*, b-e-s-t *best*, s-p-l-a-sh *splash*
- Red, Green and Purple Storybooks in school.
- The book that is sent home to practice will be at a lower level than the one they are reading at school to help develop their reading fluency.

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

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.
- The book that is sent home to practice will be at a lower level than the one they are reading at school to help develop their reading fluency.

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.
- By the time children know most of these Set 3 sounds, they will be able to decode a wider range of texts, therefore books from other reading schemes e.g. Oxford Reading Tree, Collins Big Cat etc. may be sent home to read.

How to listen to your child read



- Do not read the book aloud before your child reads it to you.
- Ask your child to read the sounds and words before they read the story.
- When your child reads the story, ask them to sound out the words that they can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when they succeed.
- Read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving. (Your child's energy is going into reading the words not the story.)
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures.
- Do it all with patience and love!

We have a storytime 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 night. Wolsingham has a library which is free to join and has a range of wonderful book for you to access.

3. Help your child read the Storybooks

Storybooks

As soon as your child starts to read the *Read Write Inc. Phonics* Storybooks, they will bring home a Storybook. This is a copy of the book they will have read at school.

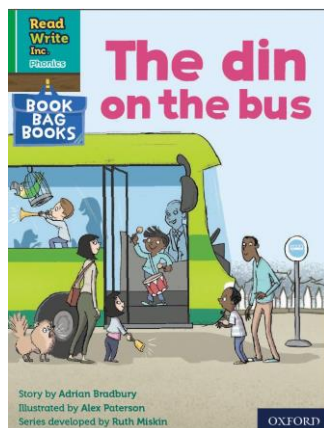
Your child will have read this story three times with their reading teacher, so should be able to read the story confidently. To develop your child's reading fluency, they will need to keep books sent home for either 3 or 5 days and read it repeatedly during that time.



A brief explanation of how to follow the activities is included in the books.

Book Bag Books

Your child may also bring home a Book Bag Book. This book builds upon the ideas and many of the words in the Storybook they has just read. Your child will need more support in reading this book. To develop your child's reading fluency, they will need to keep books sent home for either 3 or 5 days and read it repeatedly during that time.



Again, explanations of how to use the activities are included in the books.

1. Help your child read the Set 1 Speed Sounds

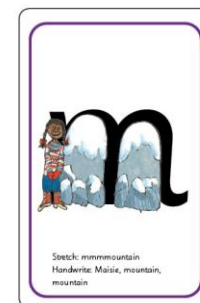
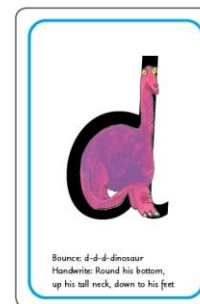
Before you get going, visit www.ruthmiskin.com/parents to practise saying the sounds clearly. The more clearly *you* say the sounds, the more quickly your child will learn them.

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

Your child will bring home the Set 1 Speed Sounds in a green phonics book.

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
- 'm' is in the shape of two mountains



Using the Set 1 Speed Sounds

The name of each picture is written on the card in the green sound book that is sent home.

1. Ask your child to say the name of the picture on each card, e.g. a-a-a-apple, ssssnake, getting quicker each time.
2. Help your child to say the sound hidden behind each picture, e.g. 's' is behind the snake. Repeat until your child can do this quickly.
3. Help your child to write the letter using the phrase on the picture card e.g. Maisie mountain, mountain for letter 'm'. Your child also needs to recognise the letter without the picture prompt.



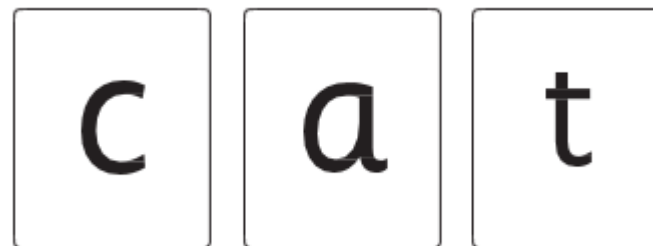
Fred says the sounds and children work out the word.

2. Help your child read words

Once your child can read Set 1 Speed Sounds confidently, they 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.

You can help your child to read words by following these steps:

1. Make up a word with three 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, th-i-s.

2. Put out three cards. This time, ask your *child* to say the sounds. Help him or her to blend the sounds into the 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, g-r-i-n, s-t-o-p, j-u-m-p, h-a-n-d, b-l-a-ck.

Helping your child to read **RED** words

Some words cannot be decoded using phonics and we call these 'red words'. Children are taught that they can't 'Fred a Red' and that these are words that they just need to recognise on sight. These words will be printed in red font in their reading books and should be practiced. Try to discourage your child from sounding these words out.