



How to Teach Reading

Reading in the Early Years at South Hill School

At South Hill Primary School your child is learning to read with ***Read Write Inc. Phonics***, a very popular and successful literacy programme.

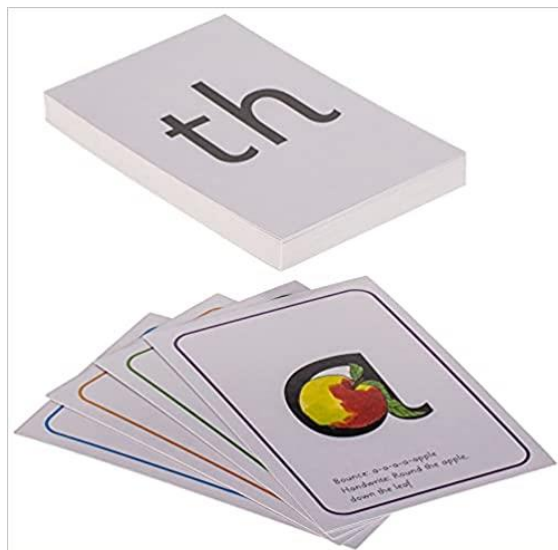
Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. He or she will learn to:

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



In reception children begin by learning the set 1 sounds as a whole class.

After half term they will break into smaller groups for phonics so that each child is working at the level most suited to their needs.



Children are taught the ‘pure’ sounds.

mmm not muh

t not tuh

Muh and tuh are know as a schwa

Its really important that you model the correct pronunciations to your child. This will help when they blend sounds for reading.



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 (these are called **digraphs**): **sh th ch ng nk**

A phoneme is the sound a letter makes and a grapheme is the way it is written

•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*

Your child will have received a daily letter sound sheet and flash cards at the end of each week to practice at home.



How will my child learn to read?

Second, he or she will learn to read:

Set 2 Speed Sounds: **ay ee igh ow oo oo ar or air
ir ou oy**

Words containing these sounds:

d-ay, day, f-ee-t, feet, c-ar-d, card



How will my child learn to read?

Third, he or she 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:

m-ea-t, meat, c-oi-n, coin, t-r-ai-n, train

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.

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



c a t

1. Write or use sound cards to make a word your child can read easily like c-a-t.
2. Point to and say the sounds, and then say the word. Ask your child to copy you.
3. Muddle up the cards. Ask your child to make the word again, and then point to and say the sounds.
4. 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.
5. Put out three cards. This time, ask your *child* to say the sounds.
6. Help him or her to blend the sounds into the words, until your child can do it without your help.

Read Write Inc. at South Hill

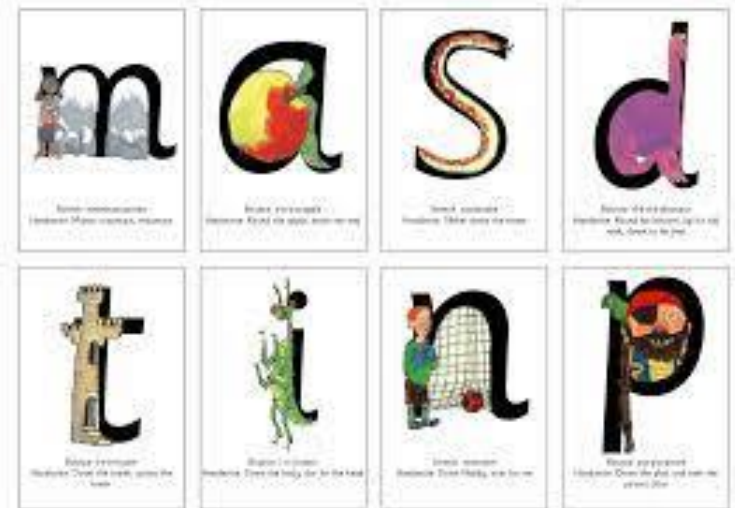


What about writing and spelling?

The focus of this session is on using phonics for reading but it also a large part of early writing.

In reception when children first learn a sound they also learn the correct letter formation and there is a rhyme or saying for each set 1 sound to help with the correct formation. As children start to want to write their own words we encourage them to use the sounds they know and use “Fred Fingers” to identify the sounds.

For example if they want to write play that would be shown as three Fred fingers. They can then write each sound.



PRIME



POWER



PLEASURE



The 3 Ps of Reading at South Hill School



The 3 Ps of Reading at South Hill School

PRIME Books are linked to a RWinc Book that is used in phonics sessions and has matching sounds. These books are essential for decoding and for early reading.



POWER Books are levelled by book bands, they are from a variety of reading schemes. These books give a structured approach to children developing their reading further.



PLEASURE Books are 'real books' found in the school library and class reading areas.

Please make sure you respect these areas.



Reading at home

The children are taught reading through phonics at school but the most successful readers also read regularly at home. Frequent practise at home helps children to consolidate what they have learnt at school and gain confidence with their reading.

In Reception most children begin with wordless books, used for storytelling and comprehension. These can also be used to reinforce phonics for example, “I can see something beginning with the ‘s’ sound, can you see what it is?”

Once your child is blending we will also send home a book with one word per page to practice blending, leading on to simple story books, appropriate to their level.



Tips for reading at home

- Make it a positive and pleasurable time.
- When your child reads the story, ask him or her to sound out the words that he or she can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when he or she succeeds.
- When your child first starts reading it is good to read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving. (Your child's energy is going into reading the words not the story.)



How do we develop a love of reading?

Our school library is used regularly and each class has a session each week where they can choose a book (pleasure) to bring home and share with you. Wrens and Robins visit the library on a Thursday.

We also have a story time every day at school so children develop a love of stories. We hope that you will do the same by reading to your child at home.



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Thank you for joining us today.