



## Reading at Colman Infant School

This booklet covers the things discussed at the reading meeting held on 1st December 2020.

The aim is to show you how you can get your child off to a quick start with their reading.

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

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

## How will my child learn to read?

At Colman Infant School we use the Read Write Inc. Phonics programme. First, your child will learn to read:

**Set 1 Speed Sounds** (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

They will learn to read 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 *pot*, b-e-s-t *best*, s-p-l-a-sh *splash*

First by listening and then by reading the sounds for themselves.

### **Book Bag Books**

When your child can blend sounds together, they will be given their first reading book to bring home and read with you. These first books are called Dandelion Launchers, a phonic reading series for beginner readers. The children can read all the words by blending sounds together. They will also receive a Reading Record to keep track of the books they have read. Please feel free to write your comments in the Reading Record too.

Alongside the phonics teaching, the children will also be introduced to words that are more difficult because they can't be sounded out in the same way. We call these red words e.g. the, me.

## Story Time

We have story time every day at school so children develop a love of books and reading. We hope that you will do the same by regularly reading with your child.



We have wonderful books in school for you to borrow.

On the Oxford Owl website you will find a free eBook library. All the eBooks are tablet-friendly. Simply register or log in to start reading at:

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page)

## How to help your child read the Set 1 Speed Sounds

Before you get started remember the video support on [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home) and [www.ruthmiskin.com](http://www.ruthmiskin.com) can be used to help you pronounce the sounds correctly and confidently. The more clearly you say the sounds, the quicker your child will learn them.

Your child will bring home a 'My Set 1 Speed Sounds Book'. The class teacher will write the date on each page to show which letters they have been learning. Please make sure the book comes to school every day.



Inside the cover of the book there are notes to help you support your child as they practise reading and writing the Set 1 sounds they have been learning at school. Each page shows the letter on one side and the mnemonic on the other. Handwriting phrases help children to remember how to write the letter.

## How to listen to your child read



- Do not read the book aloud before your child reads it to you.
- 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.
- 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.
- Be patient and be impressed with their reading efforts.

## Help your child to read words

At school your child will be 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.



Fred says the sounds and children work out the word.

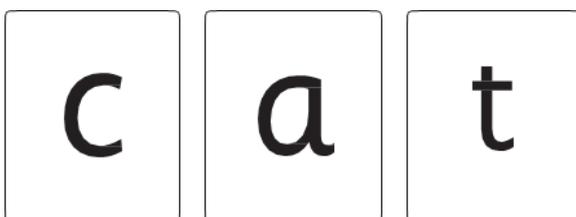
c

a

t

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

1. Make some letter cards.
2. Make up a word with three cards that your child can read quickly, e.g. c-a-t.



3. Point to and say the sounds, and then say the word. Ask your child to copy you.

4. Muddle up the cards. Ask your child to make the word again, and then point to and say the sounds.

You can play lots of games with letter cards.

The aim is to make it fun.

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## Glossary

**Fred Talk** - sounding out the word before reading (blending)

**Red Words**—Words that can't be sounded out e.g. the

**sound-blending** - putting sounds together to make a word,

e.g. c-a-t cat

**special friends** - sounds written with more than one letter,

sh, ng, qu, ch

**Speed Sounds** - the individual sounds that make up words

During this term we will teach all the Set 1 Sounds to the children. Once we have taught every sound, we will assess the children individually to see which sounds they know and which they still need to learn.

We will look to see who can blend their sounds together and who needs more support. We will then place the children into smaller groups so that they can work at the appropriate level.

If at any time you have a concern about your child please come and speak to the class teacher or Mrs Morley, the Deputy Headteacher and SENCO.