

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to give you some information regarding reading books for this academic year.

Reading books will be changed once a week. In Reception this will be on a Monday. Books will be given to children linked to the graphemes they have been learning in phonics (as we are only starting our phonics this week the children will receive this book next Monday 14.9.20). The children will then keep this book for a week.

We realise that for some children, having the same book for a week may sometimes mean that they can be a little more reluctant but please feel free to read other books too!

Here are some suggestions of activities you can do throughout the week so your child focuses on a different part of reading each day. Remember, it's not just about being able to say the words.

To start with, look at the front cover together and try to make predictions;

- ✚ What do you think this story might be about? (plot)
- ✚ Where do you think the story might take place? (setting)
- ✚ Who do you think could be in the story? (characters)

Inside the front cover of your child's reading books you will find a 'before reading' page.

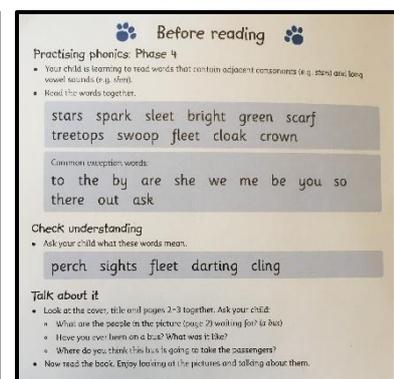
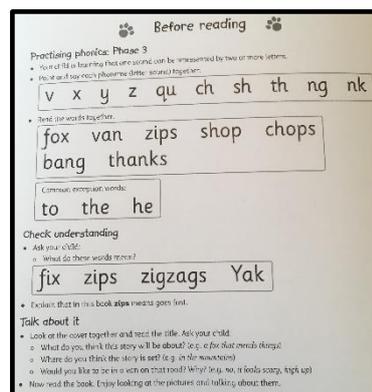
This is a great starting point where your child can practise reading some of the key graphemes and common words from the text.

There are some tricky words which will help your child when reading.

There are also some words which you can discuss

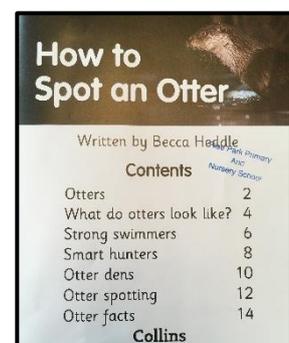
together to check your child understands the meaning of some of the more unusual words.

Finally, there's also a 'talk about it' section with useful adult guidance.



Some books will be non-fiction. It is great to pause and discuss the contents page.

- ✚ What is a contents page?
- ✚ How do we use it?
- ✚ Do we find one in every book we read?
- ✚ Can you tell me what we might read about on page 10?



When you are reading with your child, consider some of the following activities:

- ✚ Can you be a tricky word detective? Using the words from the front of the book, can you spot them in the text? (use a magnifying glass if you have one).
- ✚ Can we read the book using different voices and expression?

- ✚ How many words can you find beginning with 's', 'p' etc?
- ✚ As the parent, you can be the expert. Read the book to your child and really emphasise the different expression used.
- ✚ Ask your child 'which is your favourite word and what does it mean?'
- ✚ If you find there are any words which your child finds tricky, write them on pieces of paper and play 'hide and seek' or 'snap' with them.

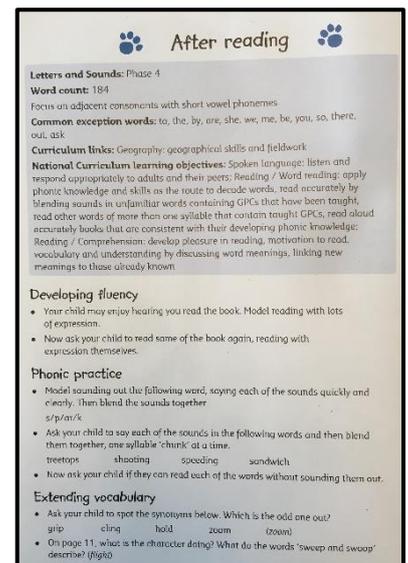
At the end of the book there is an 'after reading' section.
Please use this, is it very helpful!

There are three different sections:

- ✚ Developing fluency.
- ✚ Phonic practice.
- ✚ Extending vocabulary.

All of these are extremely useful to make your child a more confident and fluent reader. Fluency is key, the more your child reads their book, the more fluent they will become.

Remember, when your child is reading longer books, they don't have to read it all in one go, you can spread it over a few days.



Every Monday, children will also be able to choose their own 'free choice' book. This may not be a book they can read themselves but you can still read it to them, maybe as a bedtime story. This will be in addition to their phonics reading book.

The children will be able to choose which story they would like to take home from our Reception Library. We will not be recording which book children choose to take home which may mean that your child may want to choose the same book more than once.

Please record your child's reading activities in their reading diary. Books need to be in school every day so different adults can read with your child.

When your child can read their book confidently and fluently and are able to read at least 95% of the words without difficulty, fantastic!!! This is what we are aiming for! The book is not too easy, your child is simply achieving well!

We can't wait to help your child to continue their reading journey. Remember, all reading is good reading! Children are most likely to embrace reading when they see adults embracing reading.

Thank you in advance for your support.

The Reception Team

"The more you **read**
 the more **things** you know.
 The more that you **learn**
 the more **places** you'll go."
 -Dr. Seuss