

**PHONICS
BOOKS IN KEY
STAGE ONE**

AGENDA

What are phonics books and why do we use them?

What will children take home?

How can I support my children with their reading at home?

WHAT ARE PHONICS BOOKS?

Phonics books are completely decodable, which means children can use their phonic knowledge (letter sounds) to read every word inside them.

They are specifically matched to include only the graphemes that children have been taught in school.

Children should be able to read them completely independently.

Sometimes phonics books also include common exception words (or tricky words) which are taught in phonics lessons.



Phonics Phase Progression

Based on Letters & Sounds

Phase	Sounds taught	Tricky words taught
Phase 1	Listening to and for sounds Rhythm and rhyme Alliteration	
Phase 2	Set 1: s a t p i n m Set 2: d g o c k ck Set 3: e u r h b f ff Set 4: l ll ss	the, to, go, no, I, into
Phase 3	Set 1: j v w x y z zz qu Set 2: ch sh th ng ai ee Set 3: igh oa oo oo Set 4: ar or ur ow Set 5: oi ear air ure er	you, they, all, are, my, her, he, she, we, me, be, was
Phase 4	CVC and CCVC words Consonant clusters & adjacent consonants, including: st, nd, mp, nt, nk, ft, sk, lt, lp, tr, dr, gr, cr, br, fr, bl, fl, gl, pl, cl, sl, sp, st, tw, sm, nch, shr, str, thr	said, like, do, come, there, little, out, have, so, some, were, one, where, what
Phase 5	Set 1: ay, ou, ie, ea Set 2: wh, ph, ew, oe Set 3: au, ey a_e, e_e Set 4: i_e, o_e, u_e Set 5: s treasure, i find, o cold, c cent, g giant, ie field, ow blow Set 6: ea bread, a what, y very by, ch school chef, ou could you	oh, their, people, Mr, Mrs, looked, called, asked, water, where, who, again, thought, through, work, mouse, many, laughed, because, different, any, eyes, friends, once, please

WHY ARE WE USING PHONICS BOOKS?

From Ofsted's Reading Framework (2022):

The national curriculum says that pupils should be taught to: ... read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and that do not require them to use other strategies to work out words.

This is why schools should invest in books that have been carefully structured in cumulative steps for children learning to read, so that they can decode every word as their knowledge of the alphabetic code increases.

From Education Endowment Foundation's Teaching & Learning Toolkit:

Phonics has a positive impact overall (+5 months) with very extensive evidence and is an important component in the development of early reading skills.

WHAT WILL CHILDREN TAKE HOME?

All children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 will continue to take home two reading books.

Children in EYFS, Year 1 and those children in Year 2 who do not pass the phonics screening test will take home a phonics book and a reading book. Their similarities and differences are outlined below.

Phonics Books

Changed when children complete a sequence of lessons in phonics (up to every 2 weeks)

Should be read at home to an adult

Adults should ask questions about what has been read

Children should be able to read the books independently

Reading books

Changed weekly by the class teacher if reading has been done at home

Should be read at home to an adult

Adults should ask questions about what has been read

An adult should **share** the book with a child, supporting with difficult vocabulary/words that are difficult to read



HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY CHILD WITH THEIR READING AT HOME?

Please continue to read/share stories with your child every day.

Regularly reading stories or novels outside of school is associated with higher scores in reading assessments (PIRLS, 2006; PISA, 2009).

Parents and the home environment are essential to the early teaching of reading and fostering a love of reading; children are more likely to continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued (Clark and Rumbold, 2006).

Please reread books, especially those that are sent home from school.

Rereading books helps children to improve: vocabulary; word recognition; understanding of pattern and rhythm; comprehension; fluency and confidence.

Ask children comprehension questions based on what they have read whenever you read with them.

THANK YOU

