



18th November 2021

Phonics and early reading

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for attending our recent 'Book and a Bun' sessions.

Here are some helpful tips about reading at home with your child:

1. **Read to your child every day.** Reading to your child and sharing books is so important at this age. You are a role model for your child and you are showing them how fun and important reading is!

Top tips:

- Spot the title and author together.
 - Allow your child to turn the pages and point out the front and back cover to them.
 - Model tracking the words from left to right and allow your child to join in.
 - Discuss the pictures and ask who, where, when, what questions.
2. **Practise sounds and blending!** Your child learns and reviews sounds every day in their phonics lessons and they will learn to orally blend. If you are unsure how to say the sounds please see you tube 'How to say the set 1 sounds' to find a demo video.

Top tips:

- Spot letters with your child in signs, logos and labels every day.
 - Ask and tell your child the first sounds in words. e.g. Your names begins with B-B-B-B- for Bobby.
 - Play games where your child has to find pictures or objects beginning with a sound e.g. ssss.
 - Fred talk words for your child. (See sheet attached).
3. **Listen to your child read!** When your child is ready they will bring their reading books home they will have read the glossy book at school already. They are bringing this home to practice again a few times until they can read this accurately and fluently. They should be able to 'show off' how well they can read a book which is matched exactly to their phonic knowledge. Please comment on your child's reading in their purple diary.

Many thanks for your continued support and happy reading!

Miss Gay

Early Reading and Phonics lead

Practise oral blending with your child

Your child knows almost all their set 1 single letter sounds. They are not yet orally blending. They need to be able to do this before they can move on to reading words in a book.

We call oral blending 'FRED TALK' because our phonics frog. He can only say sounds in the words.

FRED TALK ROUTINE.

1. Say the word in sounds as Fred e.g. c-a-t.
2. Ask your child to repeat. Can they 'jump-in' with the whole word?
3. Say the word in sounds followed by the whole word e.g. c-a-t, cat
4. Ask your child to repeat



GAME IDEAS for you and your child to play!

Animal Fred

Put out a few toy animals/other items

Say: c-ow. Ask children to repeat. Pause to allow children to 'jump-in' with the whole word cow.

Repeat with: sh-ee-p, h-e-n, d-o-g, h-or-s, h-e-n, c-a-t.

Fred says

Say: Fred says put your hands on your h-e-d. Ask children to repeat.

Repeat with: b-a-k, t-u-m, l-e-g, h-a-n-d, f-oo-t, n-ee, r-u-n, s-k-i-p, h-o-p, s-t-o-p.

Fred I spy

Say: Fred says 'I spy something r-e-d'.

Fred's house/bag

Say: Fred has found some items from different parts of the house. What did he find in e.g. the food cupboard? Say each word in Fred Talk and pause to allow children to 'jump-in'

Food cupboard: t-i-n, s-oo-p, b-ee-n-s, b-r-e-d, c-ay-k

MIX OF WORDS!

(If you keep Fred talking the same words it will appear as though they can blend so variety is key.)

Try these...

In, on, at, am, and, pin, pat, tip, gap, dig, top, bin, cat, cot, kit, mud, sap, bad, bed, fan, met, fat, lip, log, let, hen, hit, wet, lad, bog, yes, van, yet, cub, big, tub, yum, web, man, win, jam, jog, jet.