



# EYFS Reading Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Miss Johnson

Mrs Davies

Miss Jay



# **Reading is at the heart of our curriculum at school.**

---

Reading develops many important skills, including:

- Enhancing imagination and creativity
- Developing empathy
- Improving concentration
- Discovering new vocabulary
- Building a greater knowledge of the world

# Reading in School

## The Teaching of Reading

- Phonics
- Shared reading
- Whole class guided reading (TfR)
- Independent reading
- Reading across the curriculum
- Class novels and stories

# The Reading Rope

Scarborough et al, 2001

LANGUAGE  
COMPREHENSION

Background knowledge  
(facts, concepts, etc.)

Vocabulary  
(breadth, precision, links, etc.)

Language structures  
(syntax, semantics, etc.)

Verbal reasoning  
(inference, metaphor, etc.)

Literary Knowledge  
(print concepts, genres, etc.)

WORD  
RECOGNITION

Phonological awareness  
(syllables, phonemes, etc.)

Decoding  
(alphabetic principle, spelling-  
sound correspondences, etc.)

Sight recognition  
(of familiar words)

Increasingly strategic

Increasingly automatic

SKILLED READING:  
Fluent execution and  
coordination of word  
recognition and text  
comprehension



# My child's reading journey

---

## Set 1 Sounds

Your child has been learning their **set 1 sounds** since starting in Reception.

Learning the sounds that these letters make is the first step in learning to read.



# How to pronounce the Set 1 Sounds



<https://youtu.be/yIn6PpV1G1I?feature=shared>

# Blending

---

The next step of the reading journey is learning to **blend**.



To help teach blending, we use Fred the frog. Fred only talks in sounds which we call “Fred Talk”.

# Encouraging oral blending

---



A good way to encourage oral blending with your child is using it round the house with simple CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words.

“Can you pick up your c - u - p?”

“Where is your b - a - g?”

“Can you put it in the b - i - n?”

“I can see the s - u - n”

# Blending written words

---

As your child becomes more confident at orally blending, the next step is to blend written words.

We use flashcards with CVC words and encourage children to use “Fred Talk” to sound out the words.



sat

Green words = words we can “Fred Talk”

---

mad

at

dad

sad

mat

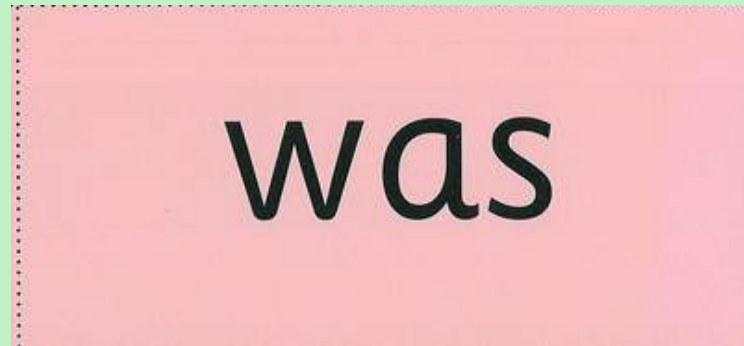
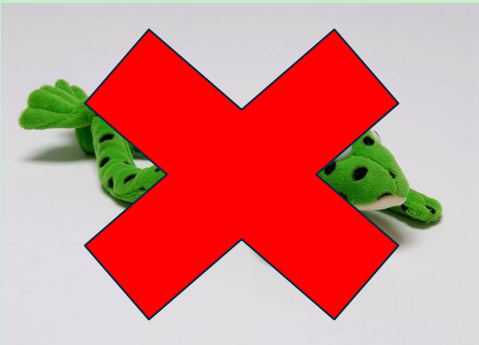
sat



# Red words

---

There are some words that we cannot blend using “Fred talk”. This is due to the sounds in the word making different sounds to normal eg.



We call these words **red words**. We teach the children “you can’t Fred a red” and these words are words that we have to memorise by sight.

Red words = words we can't "Fred Talk"

I

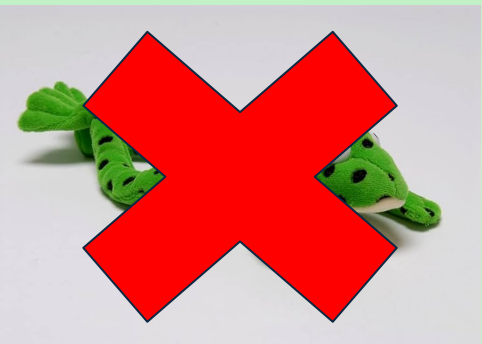
the

you

your

said

was



# Ditty sheets

Once your child is able to blend, the next step is **Ditty sheets**. These allow children to apply the reading skills they learnt so far.

Ditty sheets contain:

- Set 1 sounds
- CVC words (green words)
- Red words
- Simple phrases putting these together

## Ditty 1: pop

**Speed Sounds** - read the sounds (not the letter name)

a g t p n s d o i

**Green Words** - read these words by blending the sounds together

not got sip pop dad did dog

**Red Words** - read these words but tell your child the word if they get stuck

I the

I got pop

dad got a sip

the dog did not



# Ditty sheets - how can I help?

- Encourage your child to read their sounds, green words, red words and ditty sentences.
- Point to the words with your finger (or a lolly stick like we do at school - we call this 'The Stick Of Power').
- Encourage your child to 'try again' if they make any errors with their blending.

## Ditty 1: pop

Speed Sounds - read the sounds (not the letter name)

a g t p n s d o i

Green Words - read these words by blending the sounds together

not got sip pop dad did dog

Red Words - read these words but tell your child the word if they get stuck

I the

I got pop

dad got a sip

the dog did not

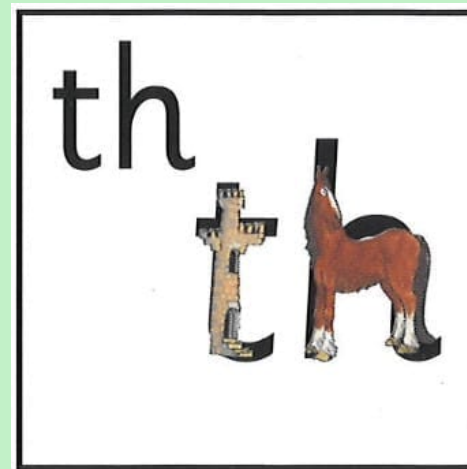
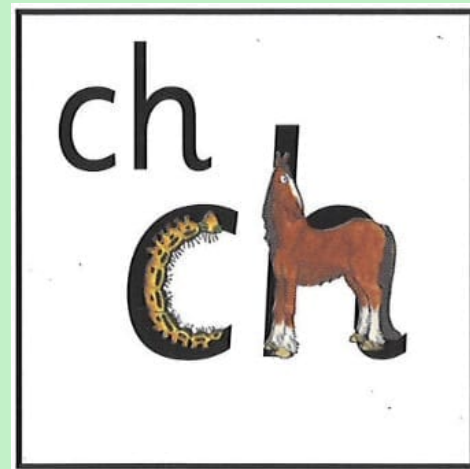


# What is next?

---

When your child is learning ditty sheets, they will begin to be taught 'special friends'.

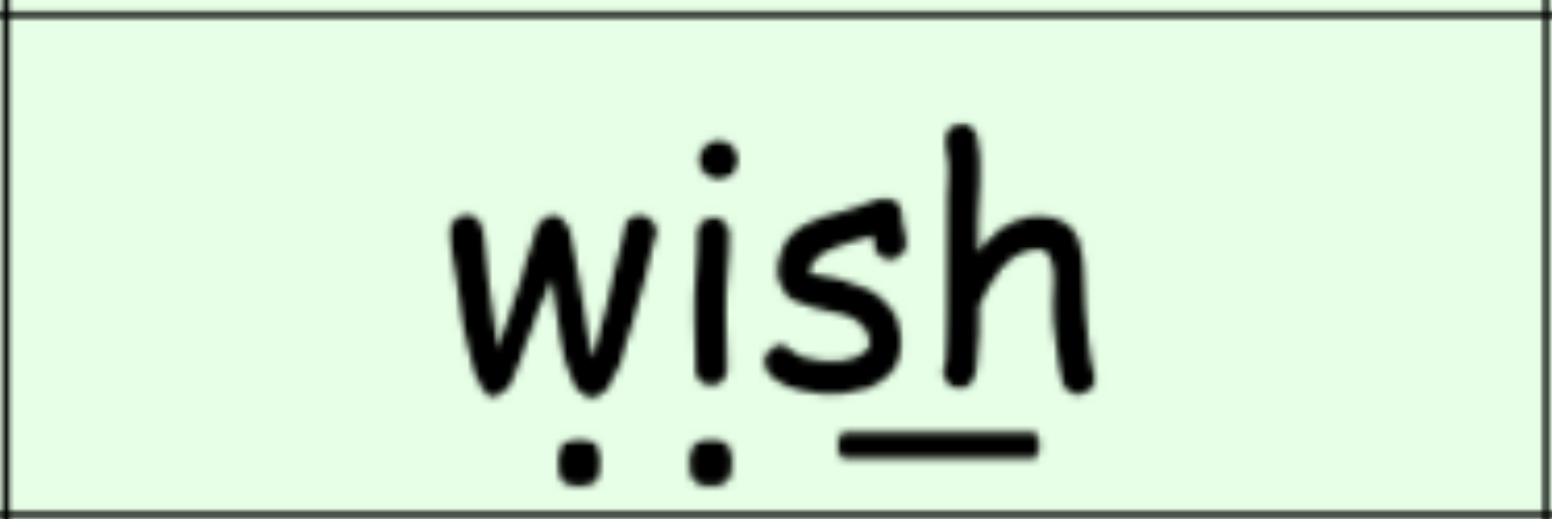
Special friends are when **two letters make one sound**.



# Special friends

---

Your child will be encouraged to look for **special friends** in words, before they 'Fred talk' them.



wish

Teacher: "Special friends"

Child: "sh"

Teacher: "Fred Talk"

Child: "w-i-sh, wish"




# Top tips to help my child at home

---

- Speak to your child's teacher for additional support to help teach any set 1 sounds they are not yet secure with. Your child's teacher may have shared this with you at parents evening.
- Try some oral blending at home eg. 'Please pass me the p-e-n'
- Try blending some simple CVC words using "Fred Talk".
- Listen to your child read their ditty sheet (when they bring one home).
- Read other stories to your child each night before bed.
- Visit Rose Hill Library and help foster a love of reading in your home.
- Visit the Britannia website - Curriculum - RWI for additional information.

# Reading at Home

Why should you read with your child?

<p><b>1,800,000 words</b></p> 	<p><b>282,000 words</b></p> 	<p><b>8,000 words</b></p> 
<p>This child reads for 20 minutes a day.</p>	<p>This child reads for 5 minutes a day.</p>	<p>This child reads for 1 minute a day.</p>

# How do we foster a love of reading at school

---



- Daily story time sessions
- Talk4Writing - teaching children to tell stories and eventually start to write their own
- Read Write Inc - teaching children to read
- Weekly library visits

# How can I foster a love of reading at home?

---

- Read to your child every day - make it special bonding time with your child.
- Take your child to the library (Rose Hill Library is our local library).
- Encourage your child to read as they start to bring resources/books home.



# Reading Challenge Reception



If your child reads at home, log it on boom reader to complete the **Reception Reading Challenge!**

**1** Review per week to complete

A colorful poster for the Reception Reading Challenge. The top left shows two cartoon characters, a blue one and a pink one, reading a book together against a space background with stars, planets, and a rocket. Below them are three circular icons: a stack of books, an open book, and a person. The top right says "Congratulations!" in a bubbly font, followed by "You are a Reading SUPERSTAR!" in bold. There are two cartoon children holding books, one on each side. Below the main text are lines for "Date" and "Teacher's Signature". The bottom of the poster features a row of colorful books with titles like "princess", "dino", "PIRATES", "BUGS", "BIRDS", "UNICORN", "GOOD NIGHT", "FAIRY TALES", "ALPHABET", "SPORT", and "FAIRY". At the bottom right, there is a small URL: "jollybooks.com - 226792017".

RECEPTION READING CHALLENGE

READ 1 BOOK EACH WEEK

LOG ON BOOM READER

Congratulations!

You are a Reading SUPERSTAR!

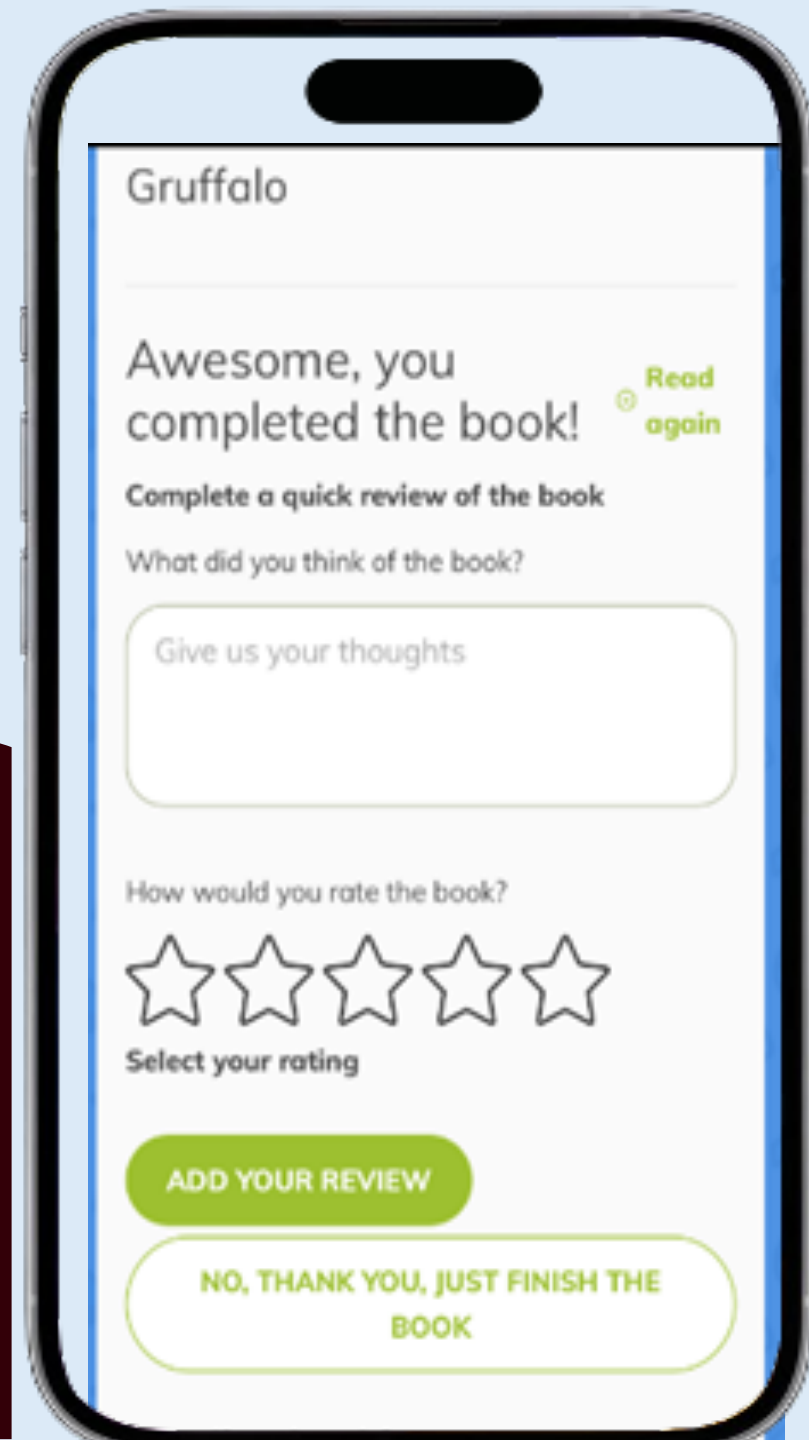
Date

Teacher's Signature

princess dino PIRATES BUGS BIRDS UNICORN GOOD NIGHT FAIRY TALES ALPHABET SPORT FAIRY

jollybooks.com - 226792017

Log These during reading and after  
using Boom Reader  
Review them on Boom Reader  
only pupils can review





# The Power of Reading!



Creating a love of reading in children is potentially one of the most powerful ways of impacting on academic standards in school



There can be few better ways to improve pupils' chances in school, or beyond in the wider world, than to enable them to become truly independent readers



Reading is all about acquiring meaning; for enjoyment, information and understanding

just  
*One*  
more  
*Chapter*



*Read*  
more  
*books*



*Reading*  
IS AN  
*adventure*  
THAT NEVER ENDS



SO MANY  
*books*  
SO LITTLE  
*time*



BETWEEN  
THE *pages* OF  
A *book* IS A  
*lovely*  
PLACE TO BE



SOMETHING VERY  
*Magical*  
CAN HAPPEN WHEN YOU  
READ A  
*good book*

