



Welcome to our Reading Workshop for Reception Parents - October 2025





What we will cover today

- Why reading is important
- How we teach reading in our school
- How you can support reading at home



The importance of reading



- Reading is our priority (only second to keeping our children safe and happy).
- Reading supports children's personal development - *building confidence, empathy, curiosity, imagination.*
- Reading is a gateway to wider learning across the curriculum.
- We aim for ALL children to love reading.
- *This is especially important when, in the UK, children's reading for enjoyment is at an all-time low.* **2026 will be The National Year of Reading.**



What do we teach?

- Decoding (word reading)
- Comprehension (understanding the words)
- Fluency (reading accurately, quickly, with expression)
- Reading for Pleasure



*These run **alongside** each other and are underpinned by **talk**.*



A language-rich environment



- High quality interactions
- Daily Storytime and Rhymetime
- High quality texts
- Engaging play-based learning
 - revisit ideas and vocabulary from books
 - act out stories and rhymes
 - child-led reading and mark making





Phonological Awareness

We are a
Ruth Miskin

Read Write Inc

school
2024

The ability to identify the sounds within spoken words.

- Rhyme
- Alliteration
- Syllables
- Phonemes



Sing rhymes.
Share rhyming stories.
Play rhyming games and
'Fred Talk' games.

If children know eight **nursery rhymes** by the time they are 4, they are usually among the **best readers** by the time they are 8.'

Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children will Change Their Lives Forever by Professor Mem Fox (2008)



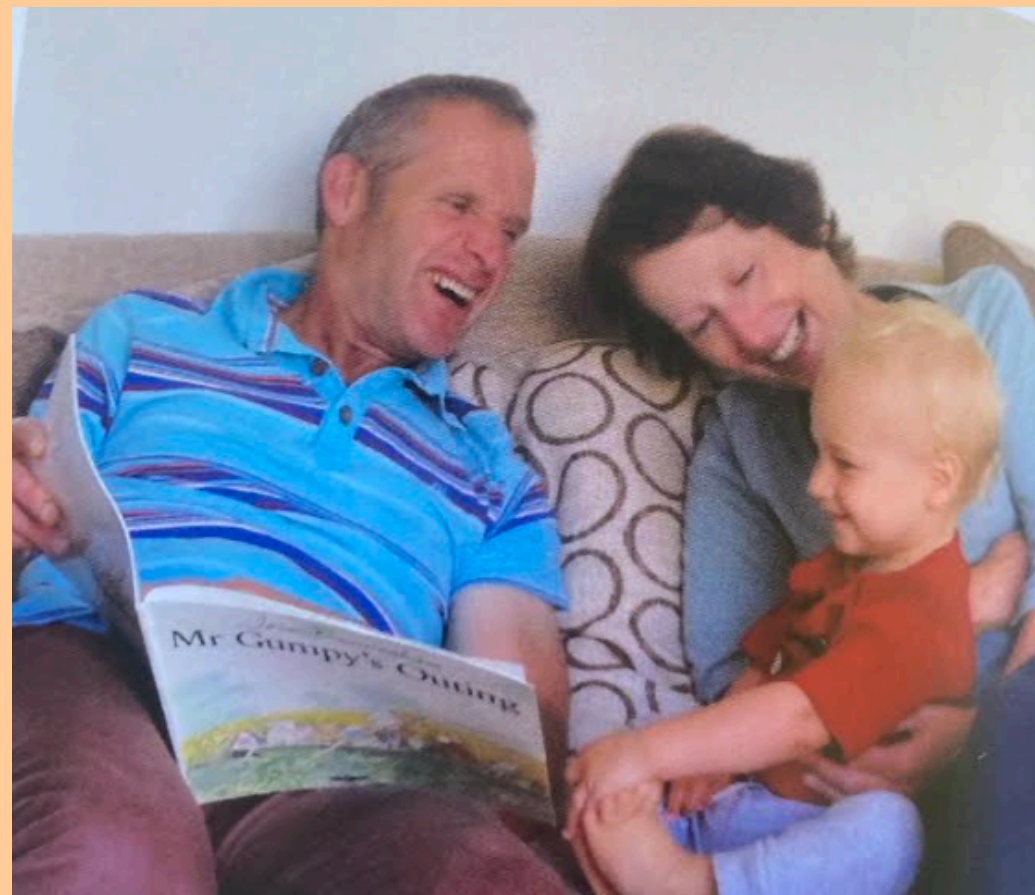
Reading at Home

You and your loved ones are your child's best reading resource!

We are a
Ruth Miskin

Read Write Inc

school
2024





Reading at Home



- Use real books
- Read aloud together (keep going throughout their school life!)
- Make it cosy
- Let your child choose (revisit old favourites, allow 'easy' reads, comics/magazines)
- Keep books in easy reach
- Be a reading role model - let children see you reading (for work or for pleasure!)

Find further tips here: [What Are The Benefits Of Reading? | National Literacy Trust](#)



Reading at Home



<http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/x7PZ8oQs/88m2tqpJ>



What is Phonics?

Learning the relationship between letters and the spoken sounds they represent.

e.g. mat has 3 sounds: m-a-t, sheep also has 3 sounds: sh-ee-p

English is one of the most complex alphabetic codes in the world:

26 letters, 44 speech sounds, over 150 different ways of writing those 44 sounds!

Children learn how to read and write each sound.



Do not teach your child the letter names (the alphabet) yet!



What is Phonics?

Learning the skills of **segmenting** and **blending**.

- **Segmenting:** breaking a word down into individual sounds. In Read Write Inc Phonics, this is called '**Fred Talk**'.
- **Blending:** merging sounds together to read the whole word.





What do children learn in Phonics?

Reception children focus on Set 1 sounds (highlighted in grey).

They typically begin learning Set 2 sounds in the Summer term.

Speed Sounds Set 1 and Set 2

Consonant sounds stretchy

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
										nk

Consonant sounds bouncy

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
	k											

Vowel sounds – bouncy

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	-----	----

Vowel sounds – stretchy

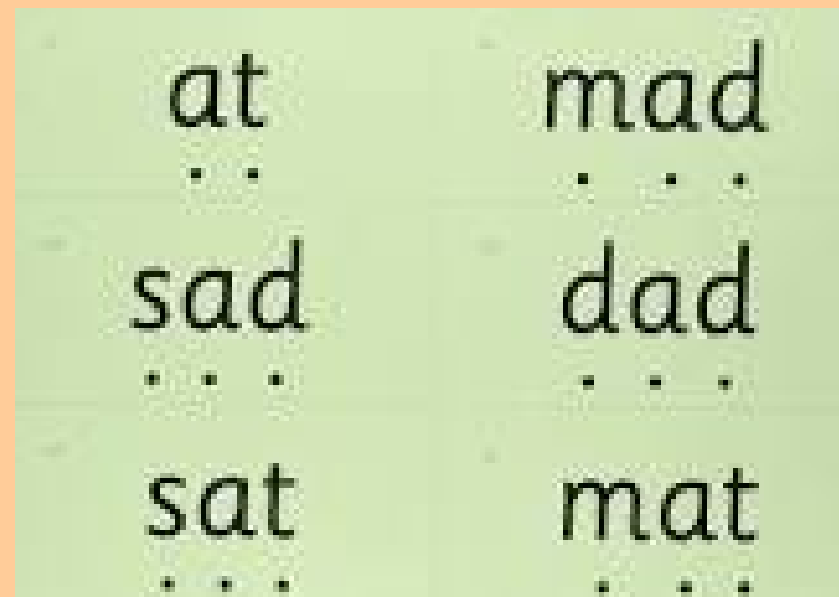
Vowel sounds – stretchy

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy
----	----	----	----	-----	----	----	----

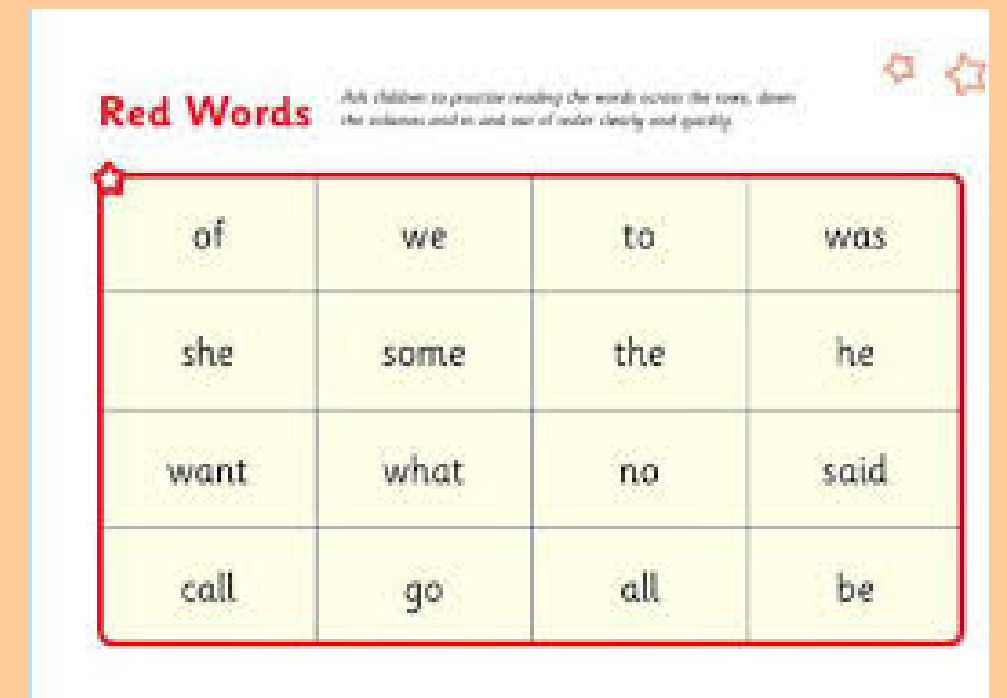
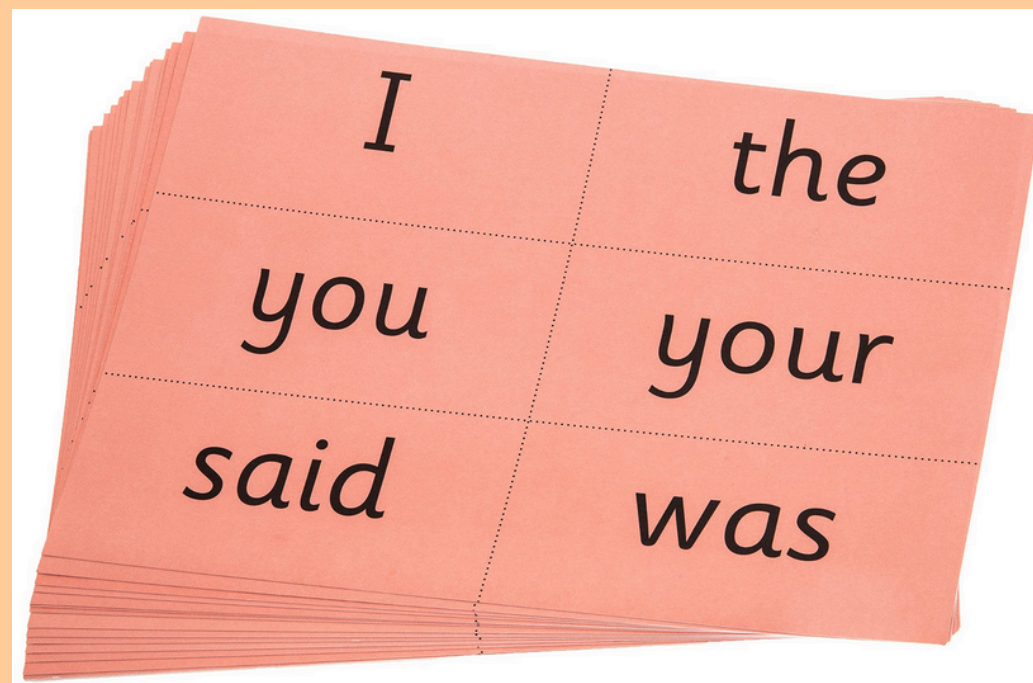


What do children learn in Phonics?

Phonetically **regular** words are known in Read Write Inc as '**green words**'.



Phonetically **irregular** words. In Read Write Inc these are '**red words**'.





How to say the sounds



<http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/P3KpceiL/59inuvB7>



Demonstration lesson:

Introducing a new letter sound



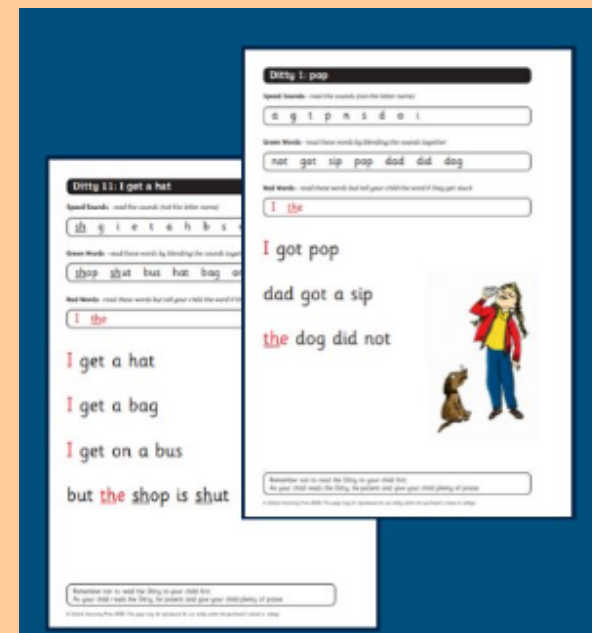


Typical path through Read Write Inc Phonics in Reception



Learning
single letter sounds
and oral blending.

Knows single
letter sounds
AND can orally
blend (if adult
says m-a-t, they
say mat).



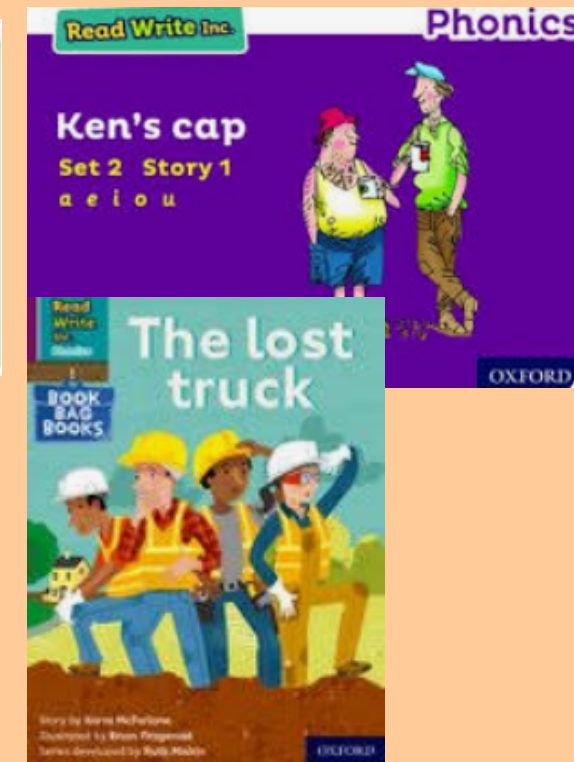
Ditty sheets: Can read short
words (e.g. red, in). Learning
Set 1 special friends (sh, th,
ch, qu, ng, nk).



Red Ditty Books: can read all
Set 1 sounds and words with
those sounds (e.g. ship,
chat).



By end of Reception: Green or Purple
Storybooks. Now learning Set 2 sounds.
Reading longer words (4 or 5 sounds e.g.
jump, stomp). Reading some short words
'at a glance' (e.g. can, got).

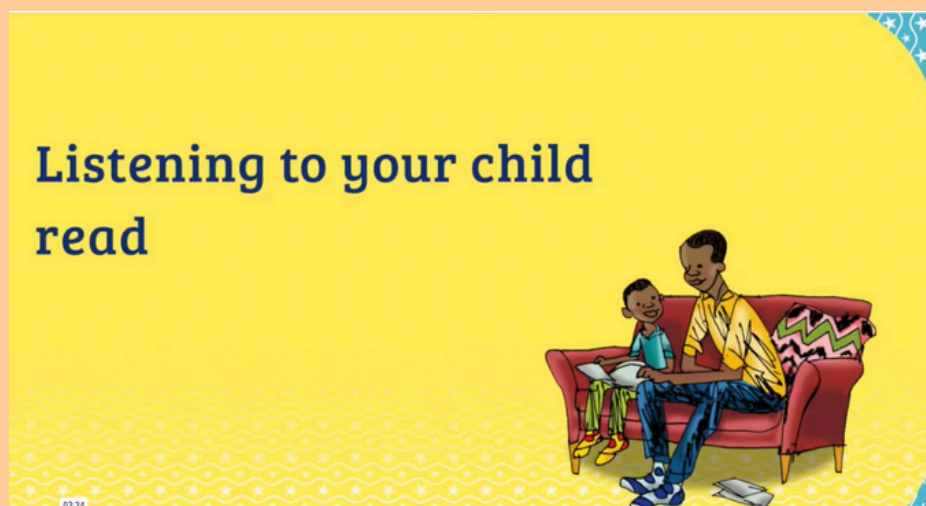




Home reading



- Keep sharing real books and rhymes together
- Watch the Virtual Classroom Videos (*shared in Fetcham Freelancer each week*).
- *When it's time*, listen to your child read their Read Write Inc book or sheet.



<http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Nr4XQ7eP/8BfiOljS>



<http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/P9yPdvaG/gFym6RiN>



And finally.....



Each child is on their own reading journey!

Try not to compare with friends or siblings.

We will give targeted support in school if needed at any point.