

Red words

In the texts your child will be bringing home you may come across 'Red Words' (they are called red words in our Read, Write Inc. phonic scheme).

These are keywords which are not easy to sound out, and therefore need

Red Words	Red Words	Red Words
the	of	want
to	all	some
I	are	come
go	her	where
so	was	there
no	they	when

Red Words	Red Words	Red Words
he	my	what
she	do	by
we	said	why
me	your	does
be	have	now
you	like	who

Progressing through the book levels:

In order to move up through the book levels, a child must be able to:

- Sound out 95% of the words in the book accurately
- They must be able to answer questions on their reading which show their understanding
- Read with fluency- can they read with expression, intonation and with enough speed to keep the text flowing? The assessment guidelines suggest that Year 2 children should be able to read 90 words per minute.

Comprehension:

As well as being able to decode and read the story it is important that your child understands what they are reading- please be sure to ask questions to support your child with their understanding. In some books there might be questions in the back of the book or you could use some of the questions below:

Recall Questions

Where does the story take place?

- ☐ When did the story take place?
- ☐ What did s/he/it look like?
- ☐ Who was s/he/it?
- ☐ Where did s/he/it live?
- ☐ Who are the characters in the book?
- ☐☐Where in the book would you find...?

Simple Comprehension Questions

- ☐ What do you think is happening here?
- ☐ What happened in the story?
- ☐ What might this mean?
- ☐ Through whose eyes is the story told?

Reading at St. Mary's in Key Stage 1



Helping your child at home

Reading at St. Mary's in Key Stage One— How can you help your child at home?

Reading Aloud to Your Child

Research has shown that reading aloud to children of all ages helps them to develop their vocabulary skills which in turn can impact future academic success.

This is because reading helps pupils to develop their knowledge of language and story structure. Reading traditional fairy tales is particularly important as these contain the basic story elements and simple structures which help children to understand how stories work.

Learning songs and rhymes prepares children for the sounds and patterns in language and provides a vital part of their language development.

Fostering a love of Reading

It is also valuable for children to see adults enjoying reading themselves. Showing your child that you yourself enjoy reading a book or newspaper can help them to see the purpose for reading, and encourage them to become a reader.

Other ways to engage children as readers include listening to CD stories, visiting the library or a book shop to choose their own books and sharing books with their siblings. Reading should never be a chore. Helping your child to develop a love of books now will help them to develop as independent readers as they get older.

Helping your child with their reading Phonic and other Reading Strategies

Your child should be encouraged to use their phonic skills (sounding out and blending the sounds) as the main approach for reading.

Your child may now:

-Be able to blend more complex words such as CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant e.g. mend, lost).

-Be able to blend more complex words such as CCVC (consonant, consonant, vowel, consonant e.g. drum, pram).

-Have some experience in reading 2 syllable words (e.g. picnic, bedroom).

-Use the 42 units of sound to read and write words.

-Recognise a greater number of tricky words by sight (see next page)



Book Skills and Response to Books

You can also help your child by encouraging them to

Take more notice of punctuation.

Have a go at unknown words using their phonic knowledge, picture clues and the meaning of the story to help them.

Start to add expression.

Discuss the characters and plot more fully (for example, describe a character or express an opinion about a book).

Answer questions about the book to show that they have understood what they are reading.

These skills can also be developed when you are reading aloud to your child.