



Supporting Reading Development at Home



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How will my child learn to read?

01

The following pathway is how most children learn to read:

1. Read letters by their 'sounds'
2. Blend these sounds into words
3. Read the words in a sentence

Simple Sounds

At first your child will be taught to say and read sounds that are written with one letter (order may vary):

s a t p i n m d g o c k e u r h b l f j v w x y z

Blending

At this time your child will also be taught the skill of sound blending, so that they can begin to read simple words, for example:

m-a-t *mat*

w-e-n-t *went*

Complex Sounds

Next, your child will be taught to say, read and blend more complex sounds. Sounds which are written with 2 letters, for example:

sh ch th qu ng

Your child will be taught to say the sound for the letter and not the letter name, so 'm' as in 'mat', not 'em'; 's' as in 'sun' not 'es'.

Decodable Reading Text

02

Your reader will bring home a decodable book or text to align with the sounds they have been learning. These texts are used to practise blending of simple and complex sounds.

How do I support reading with decodable texts?

03

- Do not read the text aloud before your child reads it to you.
- When your child reads the story, ask them to sound out the words that they can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when they succeed.
- Read back each sentence or page to your child to keep the plot moving. (Your child's energy is going into reading the words not thinking about the story.)
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures.
- Do it all with patience and love!

You can help your child to say and read the simple sounds. Scan the QR code to practise how to say the sounds clearly.





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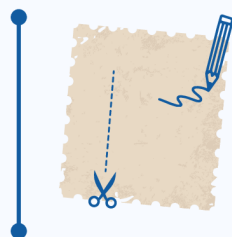
How can I support my child further?

04

Important: We say 'mmmm' not 'muh' and 'lllll' not 'luh' when teaching the sounds. This really helps children when they learn to blend sounds together to read words.



Your child's school may send home sound tubs, you might have magnetic letters at home or you could make your own cards, using paper. Help your child to practise all the sounds, getting quicker each time.



Once your child can read some sounds confidently, they are ready to start learning to blend to read words.

Reading for Enjoyment

05

Your reader might also bring a book or text home from school to read for enjoyment. It is not expected that your child can read these books independently. Instead, these books should be shared and read together, fostering the love of reading!

When we read for enjoyment our focus is on:

- Story characters
- Plot (Problem/Solution)
- Retell of important story events

Storytime

06



School



Bedtime



Borrow

Your child will have storytime regularly at school so they develop a love of stories. We hope that you will do the same by reading a bedtime story to your child every night. Local libraries and schools have wonderful books for you to borrow.