

Supporting your child with phonics and reading

Townley Primary School



Early Beginnings



Home matters!

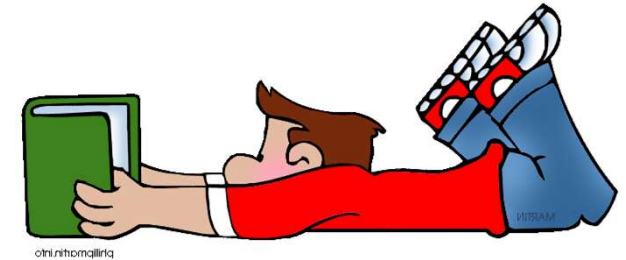
Top tips for the best ways to help your child-

- Reading, sharing books and going to the library
- Going out on visits
- Playing with print (letters and numbers)
- Singing songs and nursery rhymes
- Drawing and painting (making meaningful marks) and playing with friends

Based on research these 5 activities are shown to have the biggest impact on a child's development

There are lots of activities which help children learn how to read-

Here are just some :



- Joining in with poems and rhymes
- Individually sharing a picture book with an adult
- Shared reading
- Looking at books
- Paired reading (sharing books with older children)
- Book of the week- reading books by prominent children's authors
- Guided reading sessions in the classroom
- Story time
- Drama
- **Phonics**



Phonics?

What is it and why do we teach it?

The alphabet contains only 26 letters. Spoken English uses about 42 sounds (phonemes).

These sounds are represented by letters. (graphemes)

A sound can be represented by a letter (e.g. 's' or 'h') or a group of letters (e.g. ch or igh). Once children begin learning sounds they quickly start to read and spell words using the sounds.



Tips

- Don't put any extra emphasis on the ends of letter sounds - these should be short,
- e.g. 'mmm' not 'muh' 'h' (whispered) not 'huh'



<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading/phonics-made-easy/>

Letters and Sounds are taught through 5 phases from Nursery to Year 2 using Storytime Phonics

- Phase 1: Explores environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body percussions (eg. clapping and stamping), rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds, oral blending and segmenting (eg. hearing that d-o-g makes dog) and how sounds are produced. Typical activities for teaching Phase 1 phonics include **'listening' walks, playing and identifying instruments, action songs, learning rhymes and playing games like I Spy.** This phase is intended to develop children's listening, vocabulary and speaking skills.
- Phase 2: Introduces the first 19 letter sounds (phonemes)
- Phase 3: Explores the next 26 phonemes
- Phase 4: Consolidation unit where children practise blending, and segmenting
- Phase 5: Explores alternative pronunciations of letters (graphemes)

Storytime phonics teaches each phoneme through a quality picture book with lots of fun activities and focuses on developing a love of reading.



Storytime Phonics



Each phoneme has a caption and action plus a rhyme to help write the letter using the correct letter formation.

N

n



Caption: n, n, nee nor

Action: Place clenched fist on top of head, open and close hand creating a flashing light.

nip, nurse, nest, necklace, nanny, nail

Spray the hose
down then up
over the fire
and flick.

n



Blending

To learn to read well children must be able to smoothly blend sounds together. Showing your child how to blend is important. Show your child how to blend sounds smoothly together without stopping at each individual sound.

Break down words for reading by identifying the sounds.

E.g. 'park' p - ar - k





Segmenting

Segmenting is breaking down a word into its sounds. In order to spell the word cat children should break the word down into sounds: c-a-t. Before writing a word children need time to think about it, say the word several times, break the word into the sounds and then write it.

E.g. 'shout' sh-ou-t



Tricky Words



(Common Exception words)

Tricky words are words that cannot be 'sounded out' but need to be learnt by heart. They don't fit into the usual spelling patterns. When teaching tricky words it is important to start with sounds already known and then focus on the 'tricky' part.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0>

was

What are the tricky bits in this word?



Examples of tricky words	I	no	go
to	the	into	put

he	she	little	me
come	was	you	they
all	are	said	have



Shared reading.

Shared reading is an interactive reading experience. Children join in or share the reading of a book while guided and supported by an adult.

Find a quiet space!

Firstly read the book to your child and talk about it.

Later on come back to the book and read it together. Your child may know some of the tricky words, for example-the/was/said

Encourage them to look at initial letter sounds and sound out simple words.

You can read the more complex words and point to the words as you read together