



DLG/LL 01.10.20

Lions and Tigers Reading Books

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, this year, some of our 'normal' school routines need to be adapted due to Covid-19 and issues with contamination and cleaning of items. With the current government guidelines in place, we are unable to allow children to bring items in and out of school like they usually would. This will affect how the children are able to take reading books home.

We will be operating reading books on a rota system. Children will start to follow the school's book banding system and will begin on a coloured book that their teacher believes is the most appropriate after an initial assessment. During this half term we will be spending time sharing books with the children to ascertain a more accurate reading level and book band colour so please bear with us and do not worry if the colour band of the book changes occasionally.



As reading is such a fundamental part of learning in Foundation Stage, we have come up with a plan in order to allow all children to be able to borrow the books that they need. In both Lions and Tigers the children will come home with a book on a Friday along with a Reading Record sheet to keep at home and fill in.

They can then keep the book at home until the following Friday morning when it will be returned to the 'Returned Books' box in the classroom. This will enable the books to be out of circulation for 72 hours before being given out again, as per current government guidelines. We will endeavour to read with your child in school as much as possible.



It is vitally important that you spend time looking at the book with your child a **minimum of 3 times during the week**. Please don't worry if the book has no words initially but encourage the children to retell the story to you and ask them questions about the pictures as this will enable them to develop their language and comprehension skills. When they progress to books with words, reading them 3 times will help the child to improve their fluency and develop a love for reading.





Here is a suggested timetable for you to follow with your child:

Saturday Sunday	First read at home: talk about the front cover, title and what the book may be about etc and read/share the book with adult support and modelling. At this stage children will be segmenting the words into sounds to read e.g c-a-t
Monday	Second read at home: child to confidently retell the story / sound out words independently with adult prompting. Child should be sounding out fewer words than before – becoming more fluent.
Tuesday	Read for pleasure! Share a different book with an adult/ adult to read to child. Sharing stories, picture books and even chapter books with your child is really important. It's a time for closeness, laughing and talking together – and it can also give children a flying start in life by helping them become lifelong readers. The booktrust has useful advice and tips for reading with your child here: https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/
Wednesday	Third read at home: Child to be confident in retelling the story and extending the theme/ reading a greater number of words by sight rather than sounding out
Thursday	Read for pleasure! Share a different book with an adult/ adult to read to child.
Friday	School reading book returned and new book allocated: If the reading record has been completed, this is the time to send it in with the reading book. This minimises belongings coming in to school at different times.

Alongside these books we will be sending out a sound practise sheet every week as we complete each group of our set 1 sounds. We would like your child to show you how amazing they are by having a go at the tasks on the sheet. Your child can tell you how we say each sound, use the sounds they know to read the words and practise writing each sound. As a stretch they could use the sounds to write words. Your child will have a new challenge sheet every week. You do not need to return the completed sheets, but you could upload photographs or videos of amazing reading and writing to Tapestry.

Thank you for your support and happy reading!

Foundation Stage Team

