

Phonics and Reading Schemes

Phonics

Read, Write Inc. is our phonics scheme used across EYFS and Key Stage 1.

Information about Read, Write, Inc.

Below is some information about 'Read, Write, Inc.', the phonics programme that we use here at Our Lady's Primary. This programme will help your child on their way to becoming an independent reader and writer by introducing letters and sounds, and giving strategies for reading and writing words.

Each sound has a saying to help us remember the correct sound i.e. mmmmmountain; ssssssssnake (indicated in blue below) and a saying to help us remember how to form the letters correctly i.e. Maisie, mountain, mountain; slither down the snake (indicated in red below).

Supporting at home

With Read, Write Inc we are using **pure** sounds, ('mmm' not 'muh', 'ssss' not 'suh', etc) so that your child will be able to blend the sounds into words more easily. We hope that you and your child can have fun learning them!

The following link will take you to a 5 minute DVD clip, demonstrating how we produce our pure sounds to help during our Read Write Inc lessons.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5J2Ddf_0Om8

Stretchy sounds (long sounds). Try to avoid saying uh after each one:

m - mmmmmountain (keep lips pressed together hard)

Maisie, mountain, mountain

s - ssssnake (keep teeth together and hiss - unvoiced)

Slither down the snake

n - nnnnet (keep tongue behind teeth)

Down Nobby, up, over his net

f - ffffflower (keep teeth on bottom lip and force air out sharply - unvoiced)

Down the stem and draw the leaves

l - lllleg (keep pointed curled tongue behind teeth)

Down the long leg

r - rrrrrobot (say rrr as if you are growling)

Down the robot, up and over his arm

v - vvvvvulture (keep teeth on bottom lip and force air out gently)

Down a wing, up a wing

z - zzzzzzip (keep teeth together and make a buzzing sound)

Zig-zag-zig

th - thhhhank you (stick out tongue and breathe out sharply)

Down the tower, across the tower, then down the horse's head to the hooves and up over his back

sh - shhhh said the horse to the hissing snake (shhh noise as in 'be quiet!')

Slide down the snake, then down the horse's head to the hooves and over his back

ng - thinnnnngg on a strinnnnngg (curl your tongue at the back of your throat)

Down nobby, up, over his net then round the girl's face, down her hair and give her a curl

nk - I think I stink (i.e 'nk' in oink)

Down nobby, up, over his net then down the kangaroo's body, tail and leg

Bouncy sounds (short sounds). Make the sound as short as possible avoiding uh at the end of the sound:

t - t-t-t tower (tick tongue behind the teeth - unvoiced)

Down the tower, across the tower

p - p-p-p pirate (make distinctive p with lips - unvoiced)

Down the plait, up and over the pirate's face

k - k-k-k kangaroo (make sharp click at back of throat)

Down the kangaroo's body, tail and leg

c - c-c-c caterpillar (as above)

Curl round the caterpillar

h - h-h-h horse (say h as you breathe sharply out - unvoiced)

Down the horse's head to his hooves and up over his back

ch - The caterpillar's hairs make the horse sneeze ch-ch-ch (make a short sneezing sound)

Curl round the caterpillar, then down the horse's head, to his hooves and up over his back

x - x-x-x exercise (say a sharp c and add s - unvoiced)

Cross down the arm and leg and cross the other way

You might find it harder to avoid saying uh at the end of these bouncy sounds.

- d - d-d-d dinosaur (tap tongue behind the teeth)
 Round the dinosaur's bottom, up his tall neck and down to his feet
- g - g-g-g girl (make soft sound in throat)
 Round the girl's face, down her hair and give her a curl
- b - b-b-b boot (make a short, strong b with lips)
 Down to the heel, up and over the toe
- j - j-j-j Jack-in-the-box (push lips forward)
 Down his body, curl and dot
- y - y-y-y yak (keep edges of tongue against teeth)
 Down a horn, up a horn and under the yak's head
- w - w-w-w worm (keep lips tightly pursed)
 Down, up, down, up the worm
- qu - qu-qu-qu queen (keep lips pursed as you say cw- unvoiced)
 Round the queen's head, up to her crown, down her hair and curl

Vowels- the short vowels should be kept short and sharp:

- a - a-a-a apple (open mouth wide as if to take a bite of an apple)
 Round the apple and down the leaf
- e - e-e-e egg (release mouth slightly from a position)
 Chop off the top and scoop out the egg
- i - i-i-i insect (make a sharp sound at the back of the throat - smile)
 Down the body and a dot for the head
- o - o-o-o orange (push out lips, make the mouth into o shape)
 All around the orange
- u: u-u-u umbrella (make a sound in the throat)
 Down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle

The long vowel sounds are all stretchy sounds

- ay: ay, may I play?
- ee: ee, what do you see?
- igh: fly high
- ow: blow the snow
- oo: poo at the zoo
- oo: look at a book
- ar: start the car
- or: shut the door
- air: that's not fair
- ir: whirl and twirl
- ou: shout it out
- oy: toy for a boy

Our teachers and teaching assistants at Our Lady's Primary School can show you how to pronounce these sounds. We hope that you will not hesitate to ask any of our friendly team if you'd like some help.

In order to hear the pure sounds that the children are being taught, please click on the link below

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/sound-pronunciation-guide/>

Other useful links are:

Ruth Miskin Parents' Page:

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/>

Ruth Miskin Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

Free e-books for home reading:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>

Reading Schemes at Our Lady's

At Our Lady's we use a range of reading schemes to support the children learning and developing their reading skills.

From the beginning we use Phonics Bug by Pearson's because it builds on the phonics knowledge taught through Read Write Inc.

We also use Oxford Reading Tree 'Biff Chip and Kipper' and 'Song Bird' Phonics books.