

February 2019

Welcome to Bug Club!



Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Within school we have a terrific online reading programme called Bug Club that we'd like to share with you. This is an extra resource that you can now access to supplement your child's reading alongside the home reading scheme books.

Below you will find key information about the scheme and how you can get involved. We hope that you and your child will love these books and enjoy reading them at home.

What is Bug Club?

Bug Club is a finely-levelled online reading scheme.

Using the online reading world

If you have access to an internet connection, your child can enjoy reading **Bug Club** books on a PC or tablet device. Each child has a unique homepage and can log into it by following these steps:

1. Go to www.activelearnprimary.co.uk
2. Enter the login details.
3. Your child's homepage will appear.

Your child will have been given a Bug Club Book mark by the class teacher.

Reading a book online

Each **half term** the teachers will allocate a **set of books**. This will be one book per week for your child to enjoy and will be according to their reading levels. These books will appear in the 'My Stuff' area of their personal homepages.

Throughout the books there are quiz questions for your child to complete. To answer a question, just click on the bug icon. Your child does not need to finish all the quiz questions in one sitting and can come back to a book later.

When your child has finished all the quiz questions in a book, he or she will earn 'ActiveLearn Coins'. The answers to the quiz questions will be sent back to our teacher site so that we can see how your child is progressing.

Please remember that we will assign new books at the beginning of each half term.

When your child has finished a book, it will move to 'My Library'. Children can read these books again if they want to, or they can choose new books from 'My Stuff'.

Getting involved

The reader

Until they are fluent readers, younger children will benefit from reading aloud to you as often as possible. By the time they are in Years 5 or 6, many children prefer to read silently to themselves. Create quiet opportunities for them to do so, but then talk to them about the book they are reading.

Sharing reading

When sharing a book with your child, try to take opportunities to talk about the book - before, during and after reading.

Before reading: look at the book cover and talk about your child's expectations. Is the book likely to be fiction or non-fiction? Have you read other books together about these characters or by this author? What does your child think the book is going to be about?

While reading: support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.

After reading: talk about the book. What was it about? Did it match your child's expectations? Ask questions beginning with the words *how* and *why* to check that your child has been able to read between the lines. Ask whether anything seemed puzzling. Then ask your child to explain what the best and worst bits of the book were, and why.

Need help?

If your child is having trouble using the pupil world, help can be found in the Help Section of ActiveLearn Primary (in the top right-hand corner of the website). Please note: We strongly recommend using Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox web browsers with ActiveLearn. If you prefer to use Internet Explorer, please check you have at least IE9 in order for everything to work as it should.

We look forward to your children exploring Bug Club.

Yours sincerely,

K Morrison (Literacy Co-ordinator)