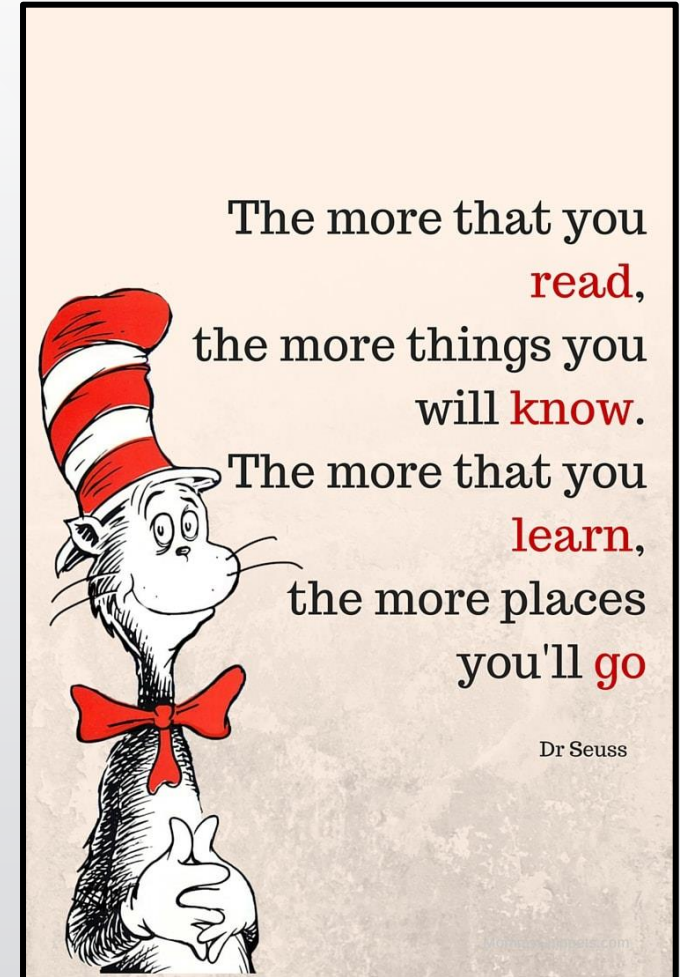

Supporting your child with reading and phonics



PHONEMES OR SOUNDS



Each sound you hear in a word is a phoneme. It's the smallest unit of sound that makes up a whole word.

A phoneme can be represented by more than one letter.

- dog has 3 phonemes: /d/ /o/ /g/. Each phoneme is represented by 1 letter.
- ship also has 3 phonemes /sh/ /i/ /p/. But the word has 4 letters. < sh > is 2 letters, but it's one sound.
- light also has 3 phonemes /l/ /ie/ /t/. But the word has 5 letters. < igh > is 3 letters, but it's one sound /ie/.
- weight also has 3 phonemes /w/ /ae/ /t/. But the word has 6 letters. < eigh > is 4 letters, but it's one sound /ae/.

English has around 44 phonemes, comprising 24 consonant sounds and 20 vowel sounds.

A grapheme is the symbol used to represent a single phoneme. It's a letter or group of letters representing 1 sound.

- team contains the 2-letter grapheme < ea >, which represents the sound /ee/.
- eight contains the 4-letter grapheme < eigh >, which represents the sound /ae/.

GRAPHEMES OR SPELLINGS



IT CAN GET A LITTLE CONFUSING...



Some phonemes can be spelled with different graphemes. The sound /k/ can be spelled with the < c >, < k >, or < ck > graphemes. It can even be spelled < ch > in words like chemistry!

Many graphemes can represent more than one sound. In words such as odd, no, son and to, the grapheme < o > represents 4 different phonemes: /o/, /oe/, /u/, /oo/.



A TRICK TO REMEMBER THE DIFFERENCE!

- phoneme comes from the Greek word phōnēma, which means sound.
- grapheme comes from the Greek word graphe, which means writing.

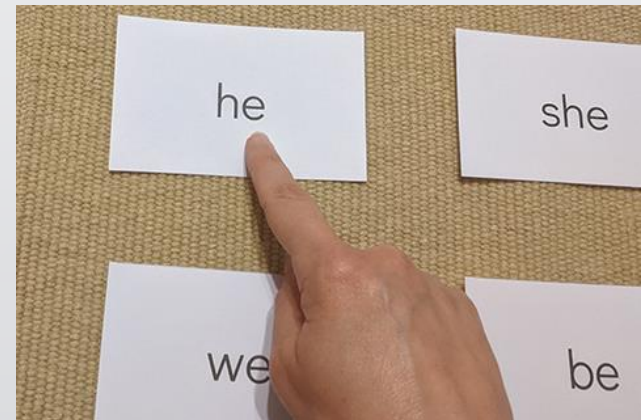


Phonics at school

- All children have a daily phonics session
- Spellings sent home are based on a previously covered unit to review the sounds and spellings
- Interventions are in place to keep all children on track and practising skills
- Children read phonics books in school 3 times before sending home to ensure fluency
- All strategies and gestures followed with fidelity throughout school

How can you support at home?

- Regularly reading phonics books
- Ensuring pure sounds – practise words at beginning or end of book
- Limited talk while reading the book
- Following clear strategies of:
 - “say the sounds and read the word”
 - Fingers under each sound as they read the sounds, then swipe to blend
- Regularly practising weekly spellings
 - Clapping syllables
 - Saying the sounds as they write



Accelerated reader




Document available on our



What do we do at school?

- **Dedicated reading time each day**
- **Time for children to quiz on their books (supported if needed)**
- **Daily trip to the library for an opportunity to change books**
- **Monitor progress**
- **Quiz on class books where possible**
- **Ask and answer questions on all books that we read together**



What can you do at home?

- Set time to read aloud
- Discuss and ask questions about the book to build comprehension
- Make an account through 'home connect' to track progress, get instant quiz feedback and view your child's 'bookshelf'
- Sometimes your child may read to you, sometimes you to them or you may take it in turns to read the book - *there is a difference between stories to share and books children use to practise reading aloud (phonics books)*
- Discuss quizzes

How reading 20 minutes a day helps?

Reading time per day



5 min

20 min

He/She will read

8,000 words

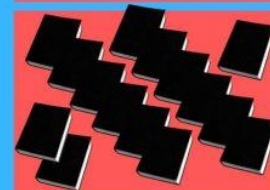
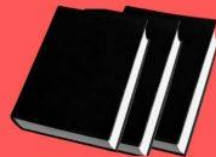
2,82,000 words

1.8 Million words

Below average

Per year
Average

Better than 90% of people



Benefits of 20 minute Reading

- Language Development
- Brain Development
- Improves Performance
- Entertainment
- Strengthens relations
- Enhances creativity and Imagination