



A Parent and Carer's guide to:

At Pegasus Primary School, we use Read Write Inc (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their reading and comprehension. This page is designed to offer information and support about how you can help with your child's reading development at home.

RWI is a phonic based approach to teach reading. It involves children learning to read the letter sounds and how to blend to sounds together to read a word e.g. c-a-t "cat".

RWI is a highly successful reading programme that enables every child to become a confident and fluent reader at the first attempt. Children read at a pace that they are comfortable with.

Children learn 44 sounds (speed sounds). These are the letter sounds and not the letter names. The speed sound are divided into small groups, once your child has learnt all of the sounds in one group, they can then move on to sounds blending to read words.

**The speed sound groups:**



For example, once your child has learnt the sounds M A S D T, they can then start to read words that include these sounds such as mat, cat, sat, mad, at etc.

Please remember to listen to your child read at least three times a week.

| Simple Speed Sounds chart |    |    |    |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |   |   |   |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| Consonants: stretchy      |    |    |    |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| f                         | l  | m  | n  | r   | s  | v  | z   | sh | th | ng |   |   |   |
| Consonants: bouncy        |    |    |    |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| b                         | c  | d  | g  | h   | j  | p  | qu  | t  | w  | x  | y | c | h |
| Vowels: bouncy            |    |    |    |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| a                         | e  | i  | o  | u   | ay | ee | igh | ow |    |    |   |   |   |
| Vowels: stretchy          |    |    |    |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| oo                        | oo | ar | or | air | ir | ou | oy  |    |    |    |   |   |   |

### Types of sounds

When teaching the speed sounds it is very important that you do not add an intrusive 'uh' to the end of the constant sound. Try to pronounce them as pure sounds: Mmmmmmm not 'muh', Fffffff not 'fuh' and Lllllllll not 'luh'.

This can be quite difficult to start with but practice makes perfect and your child will find it much easier to blend the sounds to make words.

Useful website on pronunciation- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYx1CyDMZSc>

### Pronunciation

Some sounds are stretchy and some bouncy. Stretchy sounds are said in one continuous sound e.g. Mmmmmmmmm as in mountain, Sssssssssss as in snake. Bouncy sounds are said with a short sharp gap in between e.g. D-d-d-d-d as in dinosaur, N-n-n-n-n as in net

There is helpful advice at

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/rad-write-inc-fresh-start-sounds-pronunciation-guide/>

Your child is ready to blend once they have learnt the first set of sounds and can say these in and out of order. In school we call this 'Fred Talk'.

Fred Talk involves reading the sounds within a word for example r-a-t and then blending them together to read the word e.g. sh-i-p - ship, s-t-r-ee-t- street.

### Red and Green words

**Green words** are words that your child can sound out and then blend the sounds together using the speed sounds they have already learnt.

**Red words** are those words which contain spelling patterns that cannot be sounded out. Some of the most frequently used words in the English language have an uncommon spelling pattern and don't sound how they look, e.g. said- it sounds like sed. These words have to be learnt by sight and these words are printed in red in story books to enable your child to become familiar with them.

Below is a list of red words to practice with your child at home. A helpful way to do this is to write the words on flash cards, when you hold up the flash card your child should be able to tell you what the word is. Please remember you cannot sound these words out.

|       |      |      |      |     |
|-------|------|------|------|-----|
| the   | said | I    | my   | you |
| your  | are  | he   | me   | she |
| be    | some | come | baby | was |
| there | of   | they | to   | all |

### How can I support reading at home?

- Help your child to learn the speed sounds and the writing formation of the sounds with the corresponding rhyme (these will be given out by the class teacher)
- Help your child read short sentences using the story books we send home.
- Help your child learn the red words above
- Ask your child questions about the stories you read at home e.g. who is your favourite character? Why? What happened in the story?

**If you have any questions or would like some support with RWI please come and ask as member of the EYFS team.**