

Welcome to our Phonics and Early Reading Information Session



The session will be split into 3 sections:

- Part 1 : Information about how we teach phonics
- Part 2: Information about how we teach reading
- Part 3: How you can support your child at home



What is phonics?

- Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write.
- It helps children to hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language.



What scheme do we use?



As a school, we use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme.

Why Little Wandle?

- Training for all staff in school to ensure consistency
- Every aspect of phonics and reading is included
- Engaging resources without distracting from the learning
- Comprehensive system for identifying and supporting children requiring extra help
- Useful support for parents



How we teach phonics



- Children take part in a daily short session using LW resources
- This is taught in a specific order
- We use repeated practice – each lesson children will revisit the previously taught sounds at the start of the lesson

PRACTICE MAKES PERMANENT

- Children may also take part in some phonics activities as part of their provision in the classroom

You may hear your children use these terms...

- **Phonics**: The teaching of reading by developing awareness of the sounds in words and the corresponding letters used to represent those sounds
- **Phoneme**: Any one of the 44 sounds which make up words in the English language
- **Grapheme**: How a phoneme is written down. There can be more than one way to spell a phoneme. E.g. The phoneme 'ay' is spelt differently in each of these words – way make fail great sleigh lady.



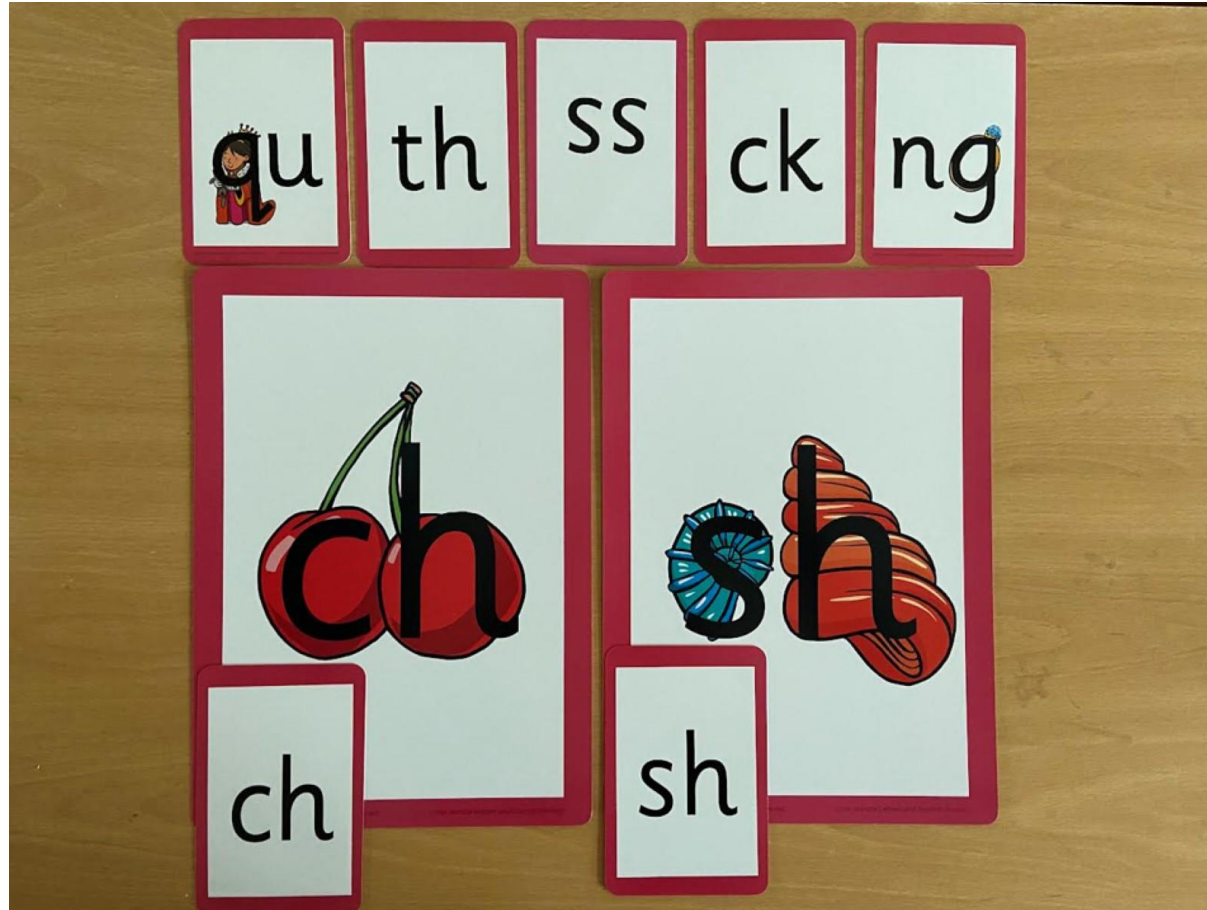
- Blending: Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it e.g.
f – r- o- g frog
- Segmenting: Breaking a word into sounds in order to spell it e.g. frog,
f-r-o-g
- Digraph: 2 letters making one sound
- Trigraph: 3 letters making one sound



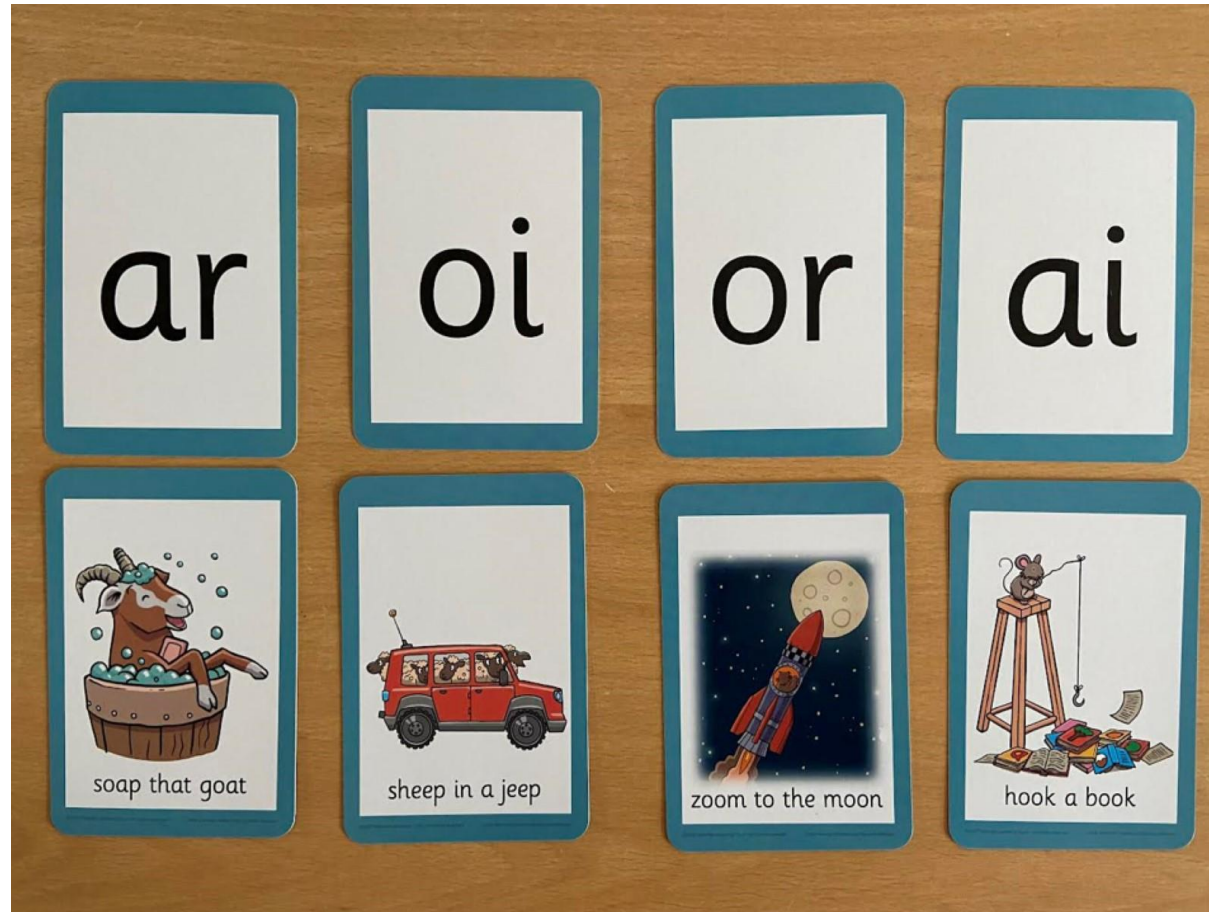
Phase 2: Phonemes are taught in order. Children start to read words as soon as possible. Little Wandle has a picture mnemonic to help children remember the phoneme/grapheme.



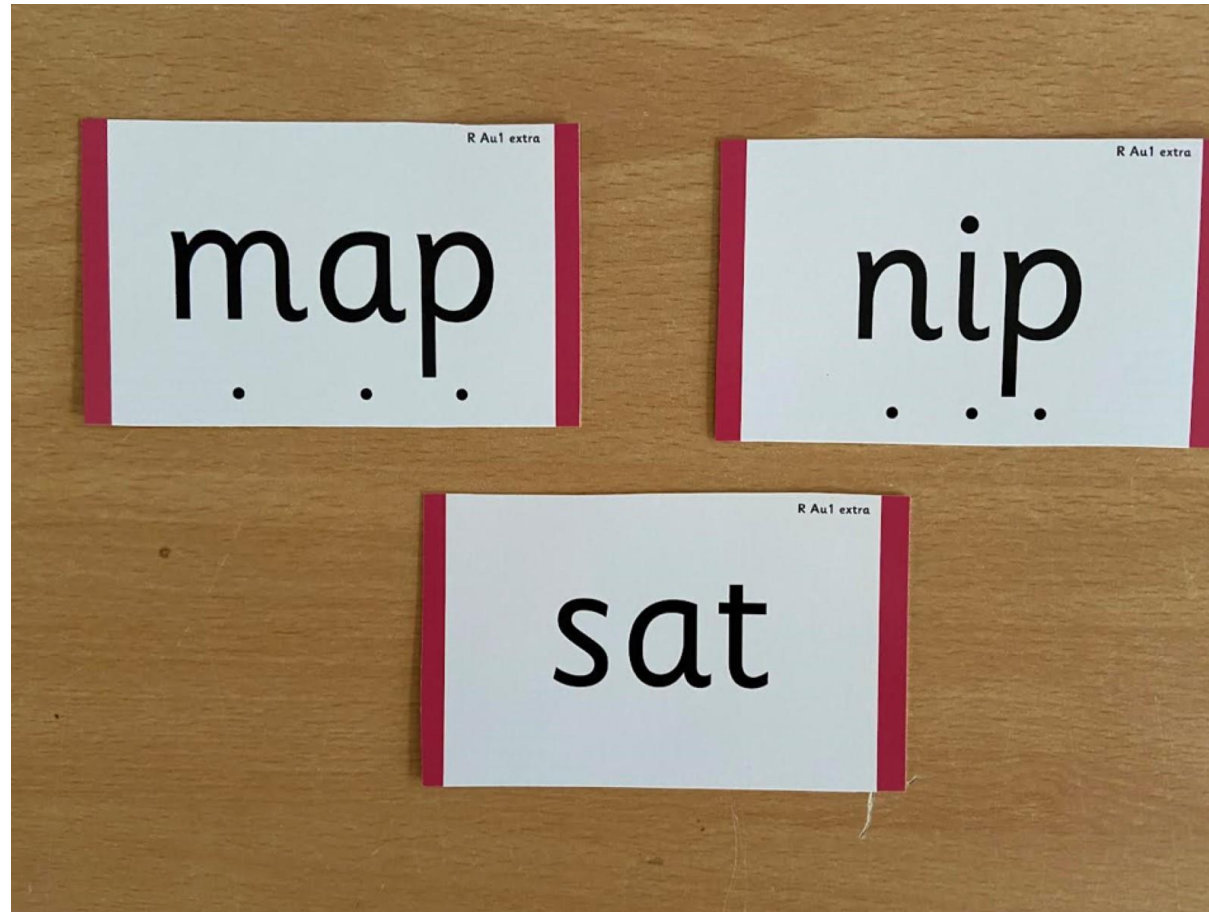
Phase 2: Early digraphs are mostly consonant digraphs – 2 letters 1 sound.
Children are taught to see these in words and recognise them as one sound.



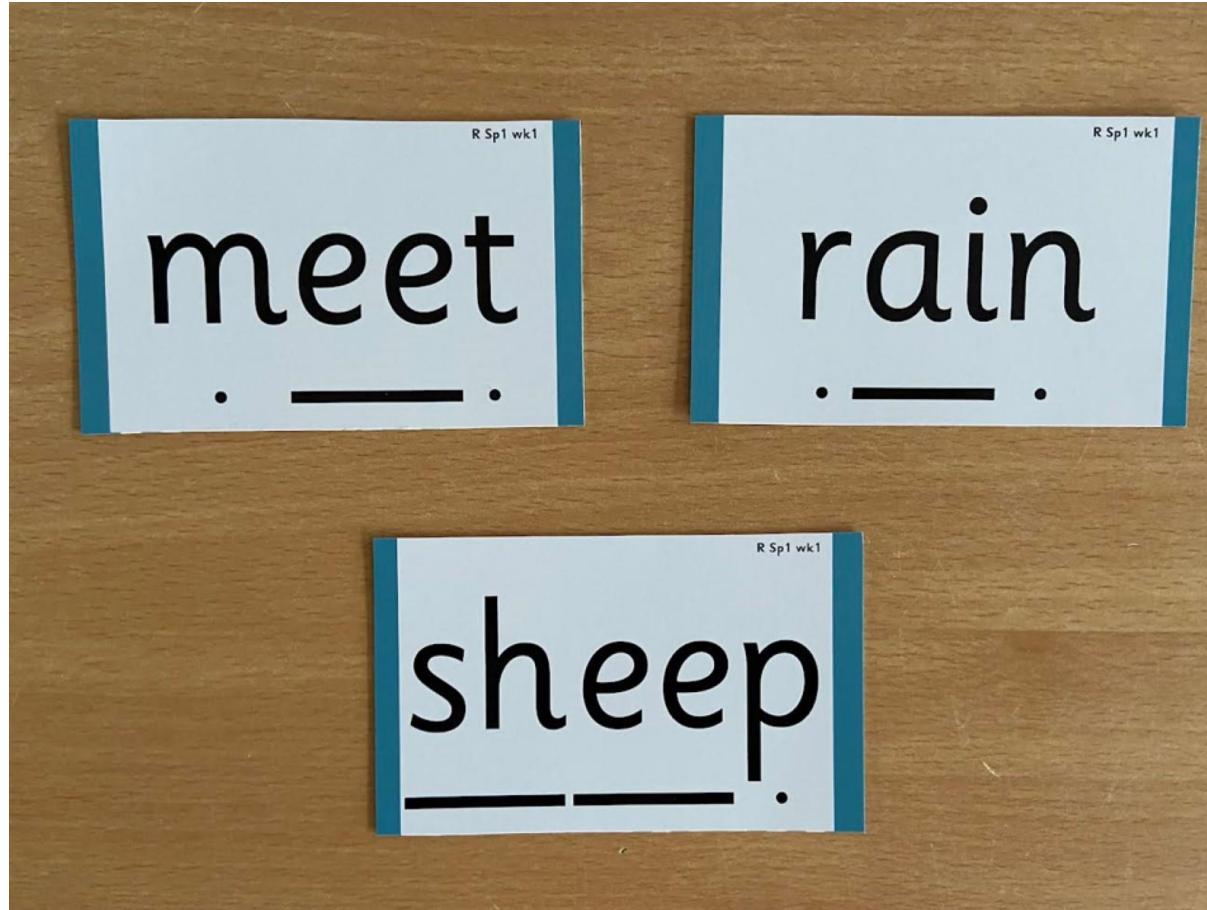
Phase 3: Vowel digraphs are taught with a short caption to help children remember. Also, trigraphs igh, air



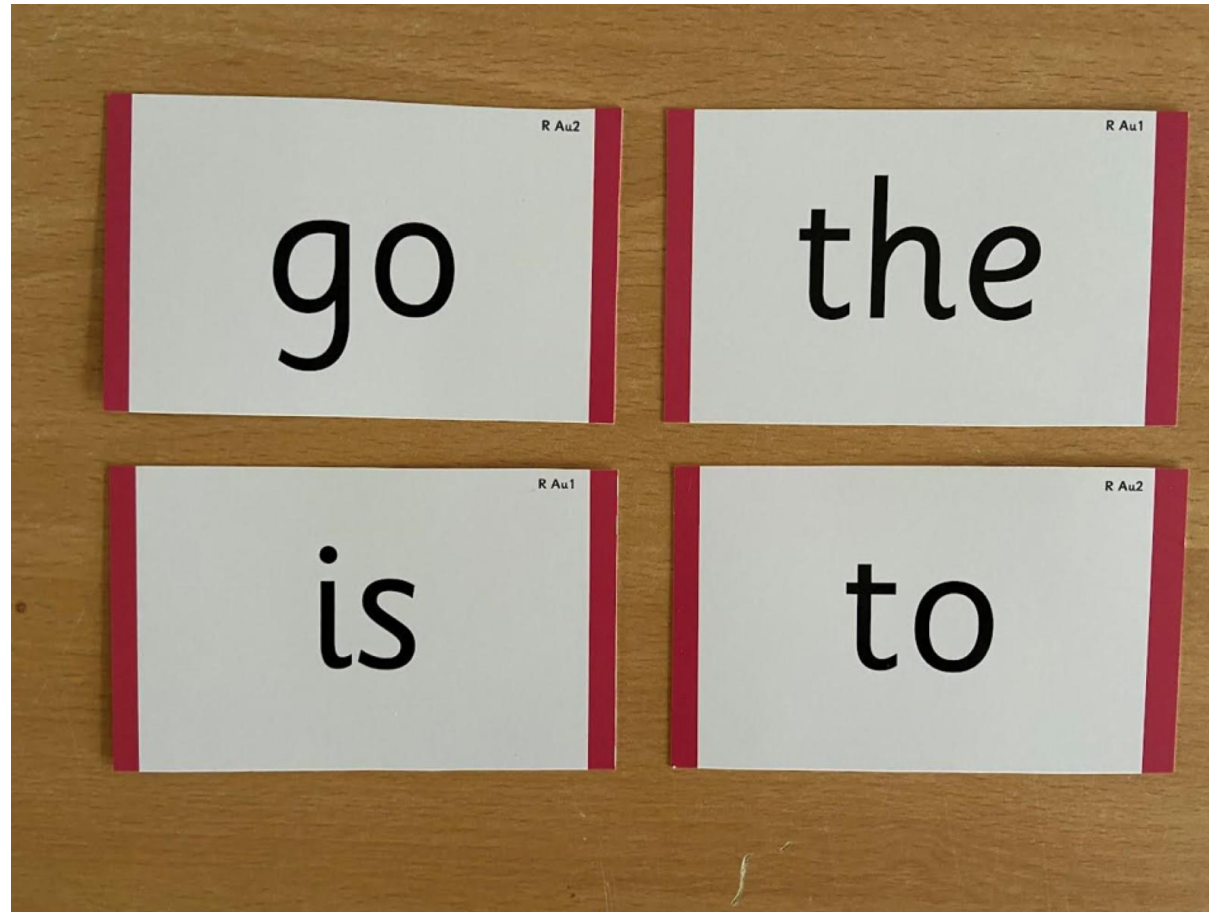
During phonics lessons we use sound buttons so we can sound talk and blend to read a word.



Digraphs have a zip to sound talk and blend the word. These are taught in the Lent Term. (After Christmas)



Children are taught about words that do not follow the rules and cannot be decoded. These are called tricky words/exception words. Children are taught what part of the word is tricky.



Your child may come home with a sticker with a digraph or word on it. Please ask them what it says. It will have been from their phonics lesson and they will have been practicing it during the day to help embed the knowledge.



How we teach reading



Collins
BIG CAT



Reading practice sessions:

- Children will read with the class teacher or TA 3 times per week in a small group
- Each read begins with some quick sounds and word practice
- Session 1 = decoding
- Session 2 = prosody (intonation/expression)
- Session 3 = comprehension
- Books are matched to the children's secure phonic knowledge and word reading ability so children can read fluently and independently



- This reading practice book will be set to read at home via Collin's e-book every Friday (no paper copies). You will have received the log in for this.
- Children should be able to read 95% of the book before they read it at home. Don't worry the book is too easy. Your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Re-reading a book they have read before helps to develop fluency – this is the goal!
- Teachers will check that this has been accessed at home by all children.



Collins ebooks logins

Password - Reading1

Collins Big Cat ebook libraries
Parent Guide

Logging in

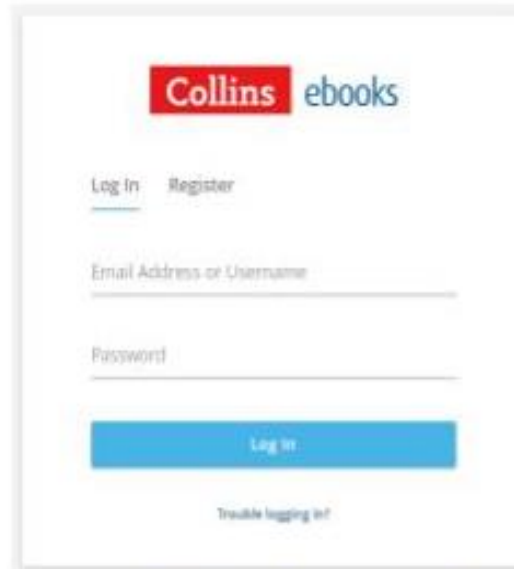
To access your child's Big Cat ebooks, go to:
<https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/> (seeright).

Enter the username and password located at the top of
this page.

If you misplace your password, contact your school.

Library

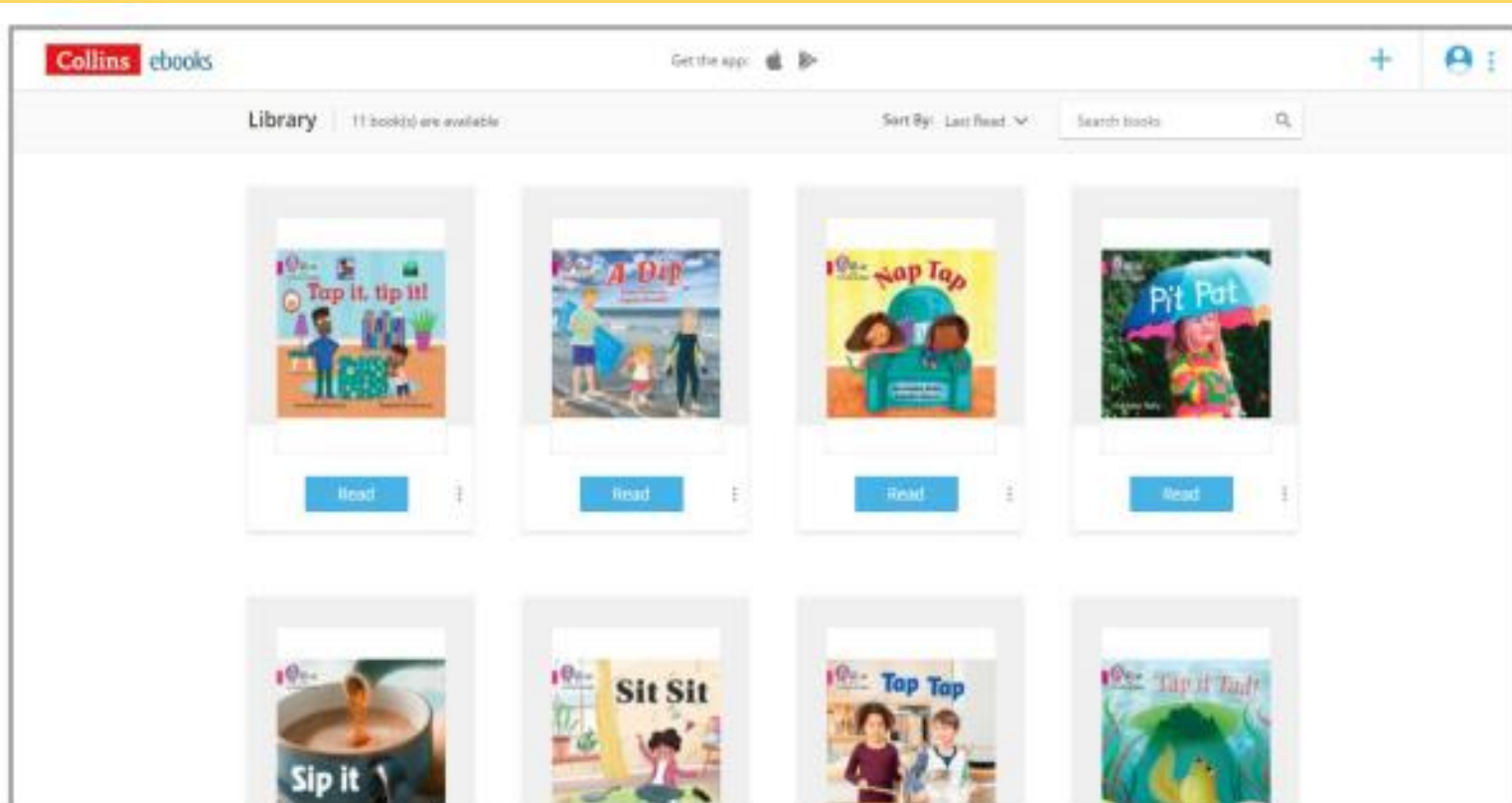
Once logged in, you will land on the library. Here you will see any books that have been assigned to your child by their teacher. You can access a resource sheet for each book by clicking the three dots, then "Resources", as shown below.



This is the sheet you should have received with details of how to login. All children have a personalised username. The ebook app is available to download.

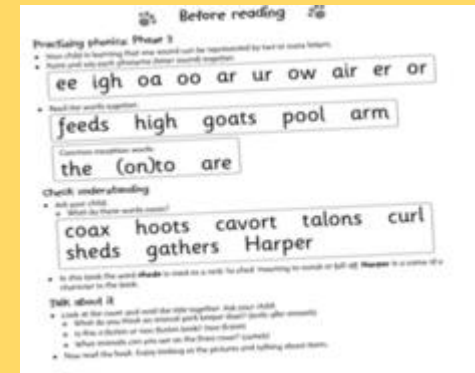


The books allocated to your child will be displayed like this. You can select to read the book and you can access a resource page by clicking on the 3 dots. The guide sent home has more information.



How do we decide which book your child reads?

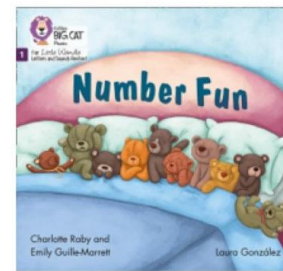
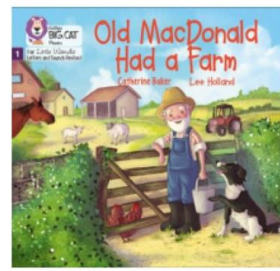
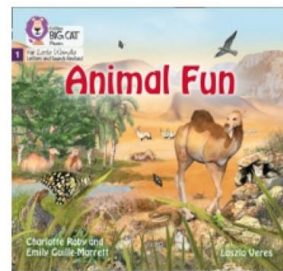
- Children are assessed every 6 weeks. Then, Little Wandle matches which book they should be reading for their current phonic knowledge and ability
- Share the front cover page with your child before reading – this covers sounds and words contained in the book



- Celebrate, praise and talk about the e book with your child

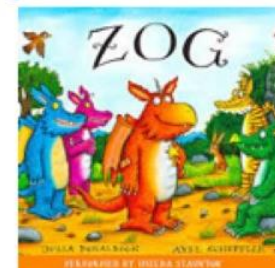
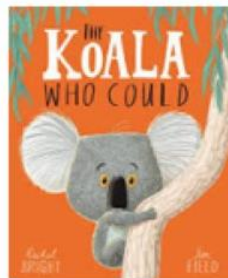


Once children have a secure knowledge of a number of sounds and are confidently blending, they are ready for reading books. Before this, some children may have wordless books, which develop great language skills and teach children the layout of books/how to handle them



Reading for pleasure

- Children will also bring home a reading for pleasure book from their class library each week
- To become lifelong readers it is essential that they read for pleasure
- Children may not be able to read this book independently but these books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures, learning story language and spotting patterns and for enjoying together as a family



How can you support your child at home?

- Please look at the Little Wandle videos and guidance for parents so that you can reinforce what the children are learning

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

- Support children in learning the alphabetic code
- Let your child show off their reading to you and celebrate them and praise them all the way – read their weekly e book together as often as you can
- Share books with your children for pleasure
- Be reading role models: make sure children know when you are reading to inform or for pleasure e.g. reading the news/looking at a magazine, looking at the weather



Support your child with their homework

Reading for pleasure

- Please find time to share this story at home as a family
- Children's reading for pleasure books will be changed each Thursday - please ensure that their book is in school on this day to be changed

Journaling

- Please encourage your child to draw a picture of their favourite part of their reading for pleasure story in their journal each week and hand in on a Thursday. This may increase to adding some words/a sentence as the year goes on



Complete the Little Wandle Homework Task.

This will come home every Friday to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Make sure you complete ALL the sections.



Little Wandle - Letters and Sounds
EYFS Phonics Home Learning



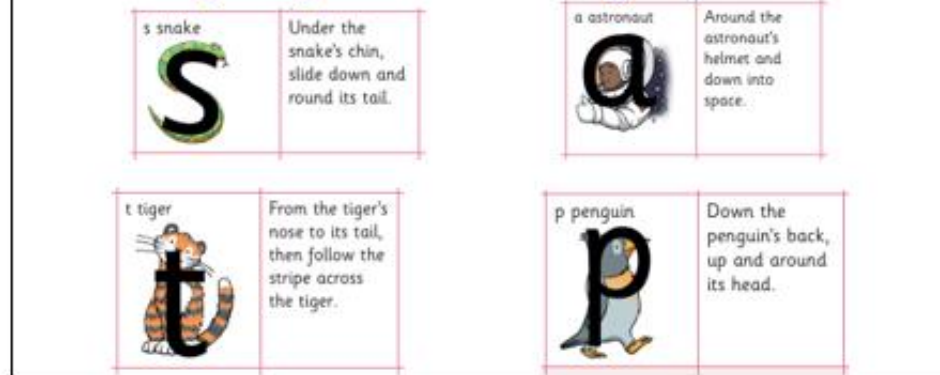
Phase 2 – Autumn 1 Week 1

Please support your child to practise and reinforce the phonemes and graphemes we are learning in school. More information and support can be found on the Little Wandle website - <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Phonemes we will be focusing on this week in school –



We will be learning to recognise and write the letters using the rhymes.



Can you match the initial sound to these pictures?



Join the library

- If you haven't done so already, join the library.

This is completely free and gives your child access to a wealth of reading for pleasure material.

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/reading-information/libraries/joining-and-using-libraries/>

You can join by following the link above and then popping into your chosen library to pick up your library card.

- It's worth following your local library on Facebook as they have lots of activities to promote reading for pleasure that are often on after school, at weekends and during school holidays. Lots of these are free to join in with.



Read a bedtime story to your child

The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
Learn, the more places
you'll **GO**.

Dr. Seuss

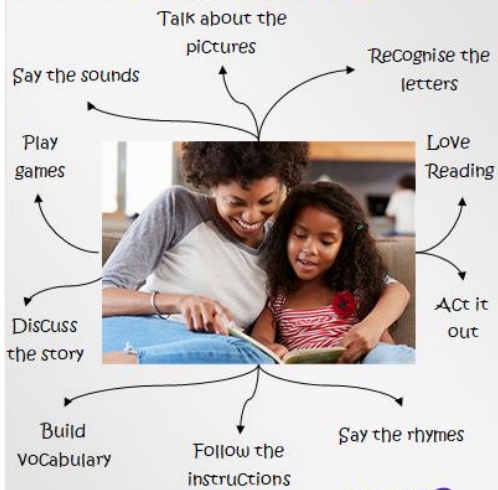
- Research from the Books Trust suggests that only 28% of Primary school aged children hear a bedtime story every night.
- Reading to your child for just 10 minutes a day/night can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently and can also improve parent/child relationships



Please take a copy of this leaflet to read at home

Reading Together

How to help Your child learn to read



This Leaflet will help you to deepen your child's learning and enjoyment when reading "real" books".

Have fun!

Sharing "Real" Books

Reading is so much more than learning to decode the words; it is about enjoyment, opening up new worlds, building vocabulary, exploring new ideas and ways of life, developing imagination and learning new facts and ways to think. Reading is for purpose and also for pleasure.

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure.



The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them.

Enjoy the story

- Ask them to join in with repetitive text such as "we're going on a bear hunt..." "Oh Grandma what big eyes you have"
- Spot rhyming words and think of more that could rhyme with them.
- Laugh at the funny bits
- Act it out
- Do actions
- Do voices for the characters.



Talk about the vocabulary

- "What does that word mean?"
- "Can we say it in a sentence?"
- "Let's find a picture of one on the internet"

Discuss the pictures

- What can they see?
- What is happening in the background?
- Play I spy?
- How do you think the pictures were made? Paint, Pen, Crayon, computer?
- Are there things happening in the pictures that aren't in the words?
- Is there any text in the pictures? What does it say?
- Talk about speech bubbles



Talk about the story

- Predict what might happen next
- Discuss why a character might have done something
- Discuss what a character might be thinking or feeling.
- Ask if they have ever done anything like that or felt that way?
- Have they ever been anywhere like that?
- What do they think it would be like?



Non-fiction:

- Enjoy the new facts, be amazed and interested (even if inside you are not)
- Try out new recipes
- Try out experiments
- Follow instructions to make something
- Encourage them to draw pictures of the things they have learned.



How else can I help my child learn to read?

Tricky Words

Help your child learn the tricky words by:

- Playing Snap,
- Playing the memory game
- Writing the words in different media in different places.
- Spot the word in their sharing book and in text around them
- Play hide and seek



Doing

Make reading and books part of everyday life even if the actual book is not with you e.g.

- Go on a "Bear Hunt" walk, using repetitive language from the story. "we're going through some mud, squelch, squerch"
- Remind them of stories you have read together which relevant to what you are doing e.g. going to the dentist "Do you remember that story called Open Wide? Do you think there will be any animals at the dentist today?"
- Recite a favourite poem with them.
- Visit a museum and read the labels on the exhibits.
- Follow a recipe together.
- Listen to Audio books in the car.
- Make a shopping list for them to help with food shopping.

Phonics

- Sound out words orally e.g. "Can you get your c, oa, t"
- Learn and say the pure sounds without an "uh" on the end e.g. ssssssss not suh.
- Use the mnemonics to remind your child of the sounds
- Play I spy
- Help them practice writing the letters with the correct sequence of movement.

We are here to help! Please talk to us if you have any questions.

Access First News Education together:



OUR SUBSCRIPTION TO FIRST NEWS NEWSPAPER

Our log in for the First News Digital Newspaper is

VIBE5823

digitaledition.firstnews.co.uk



Websites for phonics games

[PhonicsPlay](#)

[Phonics Games for the Classroom and Home - Phonics Bloom](#)

[Letters and Sounds, English Games for 5-7 Years - Topmarks](#)

