PHONICS AND READING

Principles behind teaching of reading at Heathfield:

- Reading is our primary focus within the Infant School
- Our aim is for the vast majority of children to leave Year 2 as fluent, comprehending readers.
- We believe that reading involves a complex integration of skills, including phonological awareness, whole word recognition, fluency and understanding of text, along with developing a love of reading and an identity as a reader (being able to choose and express a preference about books)
- We promote synthetic phonics as the main route to reading, using Letters and Sounds as the basis for planning phonological development. Our Systematic Synthetic Phonics Programme (SSP) has been developed within school and is designed to be responsive to the needs of our children and reactive to ongoing individual and year group assessments whilst meeting all the validation criteria for a published SSP.
- We are committed to providing a range of reading opportunities and reading materials to all children every day

The teaching of reading at Heathfield includes: Early Years:

Nursery

- Daily story time
- Phase 1 phonics sessions (tuning in to every day sounds)
- Books freely available within indoor and outdoor environment
- Promotion of rhyme and alliteration through poetry and nursery rhymes

Reception

As above, plus:

- Daily taught English input (based on a text, using the Power of Reading approach) 15-20 minutes per day
- Daily phonics session (phases 2, 3 and 4)
- Reading books (Oxford University Press) starting with wordless texts and moving to simple, phonetically decodable texts; these texts are then taken home to read to a parent/carer
- Increase in environmental print to develop early reading and vocabulary
- Weekly library visits to promote the love of reading.

Key Stage One:

Year One

- Daily story time
- Daily phonics session (revision of Phases 3 and 4; teaching of Phase 5)
- Daily taught English lesson is extended to 60 minutes per day (continuing to follow Power of Reading)
- Individual reading with an adult in school; phonetically decodable book taken home
- Guided reading introduced during the year
- Stories shared within assemblies
- Weekly visits to the library and poetry library promote the love of reading.
- Visits to the poetry library to develop children's familiarity and love of poetry

Year Two

As above, plus:

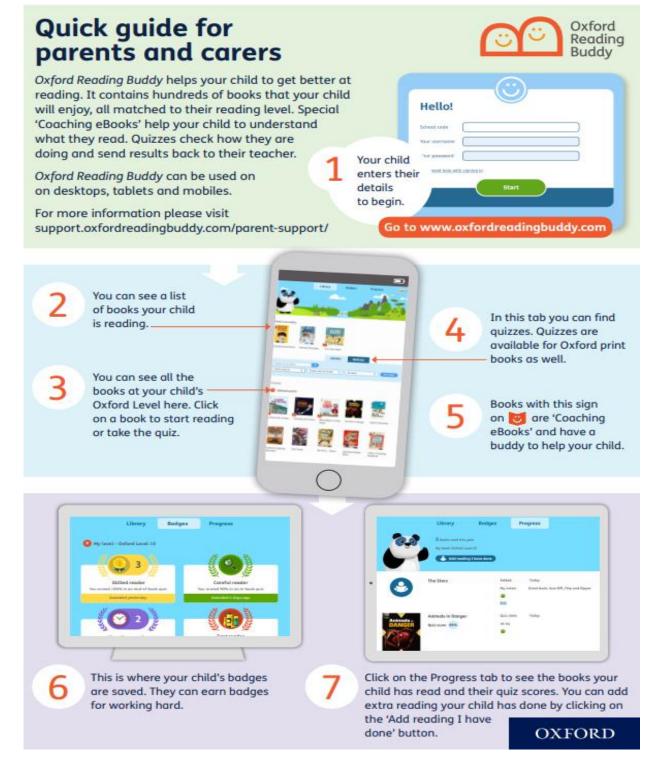
- Extended phonics session (revision of Phases 3,4 and 5; teaching of spelling rules and patterns)
- Greater opportunities for reading across the curriculum (e.g. within noncore lessons)
- Guided reading further established as a daily activity
- More formal comprehension sessions introduced during the year (written responses to questions)

Reading at home: all children are expected to share a book with an adult at home, as follows:

Nursery	Story sent home weekly for parents to share with child from January. Poetry packs sent home from May.
Reception	Wordless texts sent home weekly from September to share with an adult. Phonetically decodable texts sent home weekly when the child is able to blend known sounds. Poetry packs sent home from May. Reading Diary introduced and signed weekly by CT/TA.

KS1	Book changed 2 - 3 times a week.
	The child starts on a highly decodable book
	chosen by their teacher to match there
	phonological knowledge. As children's reading
	fluency continues they are exposed to a wider
	range of reading matched to their level.
	Poetry packs sent home from September.
	Reading Diary signed daily by CT/TA.

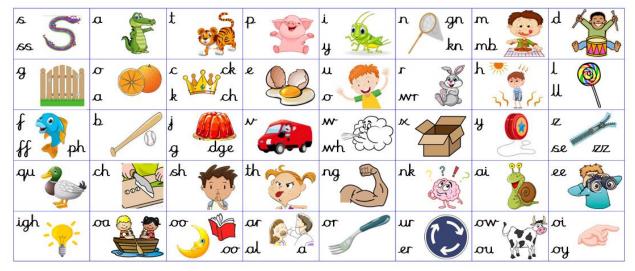
Reading at home: Oxford Reading Buddy

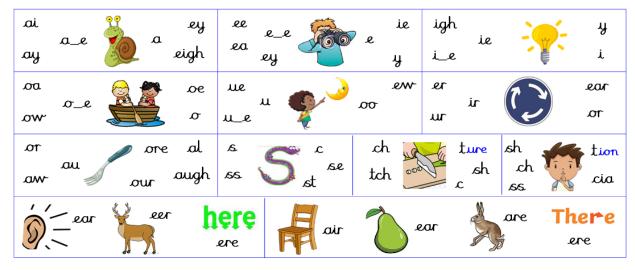


Phonics at home: Reception sound mat



Phonics at home: Year 1 sound mat





Phonics at home: Year 2 sound mat

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