

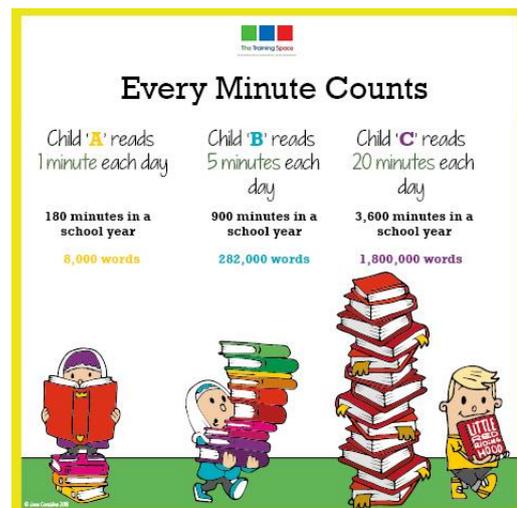


## Year 1 and 2 Reading Guide

*How to support your child with their reading*

### *Why read at home?*

- *Every parent has an important role to play in helping their child to read. A partnership between home and school is essential.*
- *Research shows that daily reading has a huge impact on children's development.*



### *How to Help - A Summary*

*Your child needs support to develop both word reading strategies and understanding of the text.*

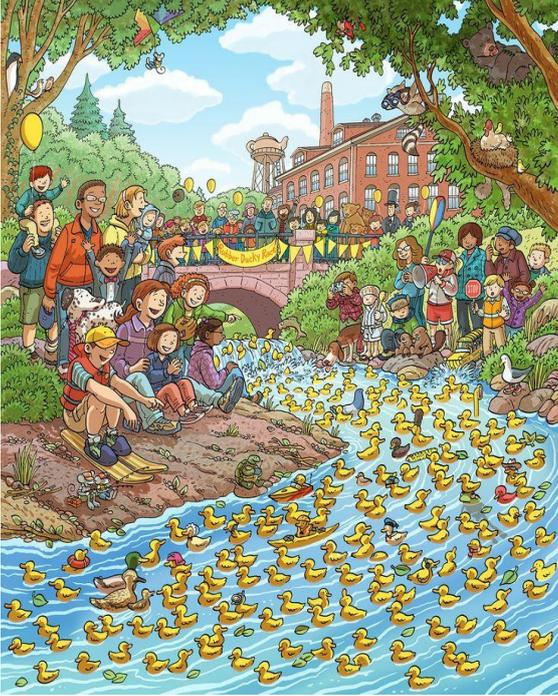
### *Word Reading Strategies*

- *Can your child use a range of strategies?*
- *Are they using phonics to sound out unfamiliar words?*
- *Does your child recognise high frequency or key words on sight?*
- *Does your child use the context of the text or picture clues to help them?*

### *Understanding*

- *Can your child answer simple questions about the text?*
- *Can they retell the story in their own words?*
- *Can they say what they like and dislike about the text or relate it to their own experiences?*
- *Can they talk about characters and their feelings?*

## Talking about pictures



- Try to get your child to tell you what they see.
- Ask them if the picture helps them to see what will happen next.
- Get them to name the characters and objects they can see.
- Encourage them to say the words in the text and what they mean.

### Ask questions

Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?  
What can you see in the water?  
What are the people doing?  
How do you think the people feel?  
Why do you think they are happy?  
Have you ever been in a race?

## Reading your child's school book with them

1. Begin by going through their phonics flashcards and tricky words. If there are only a couple they are struggling with, note these down so that the next person can continue practising with them.

2. Have a look at the book together.

Discuss what they can see on the front cover and what the picture shows.

- What is the title? Make predictions about the story.
- Have you read any of the book, if so what has happened so far?

### 3. Word books

- When your child is beginning to read, sound out any regular words e.g. c-a-t and then blend them together.
- Pause... prompt... praise
  - Pause - give your child a few seconds to correct themselves, or make an attempt to read a word
  - Prompt - if the word is not read correctly, or they are struggling with a word, give them some prompts. For example, use the picture clue, look ahead, think about what just happened, break the word up together or give the word to them.
  - Praise - be positive and celebrate your child's successes.
- Try not to say no! Try saying:
  - Have another look...
  - Almost there...
  - Are you sure?
- There will be words that can't be read using phonics (e.g. go, no) and we teach these as 'tricky' words. Help the child to spot these and recognise that they are 'tricky' words and not to be sounded out.
- Once the child is confident with segmenting and blending words they will not need to sound each word out and their reading will become more fluent. They will then only rely on phonics to decode new, unfamiliar words.
- When your child is confident with whole word reading, encourage them to apply phonics only to unknown or more challenging vocabulary.
- When your child encounters a new word, check that they know the meaning of this word. Use the context of the sentence to try and work it out.
- At the end of each page talk about what happened, the meaning of any new words and ensure the child understands what they have read. Some questions you might ask:
  - What is the story about?
  - What has happened so far?
  - What might happen next? Why do you think that?
  - What sort of character is...? Who is your favourite character?
  - How is this character feeling? How do you know?

- Did you like this book? Why?
- What was your favourite part of the book?
- Why did the character...?

4. When you have finished reading, write a quick comment in their yellow book. This should be a positive, constructive comment about the child's reading. For example 'Fantastic reading today! You used phonics to sound out new words. Keep working on your tricky words.'

### Additional Top Tips

- Model a love of reading to your child in a range of contexts. Show enthusiasm for reading and for books.
- Keep old newspapers, magazines and leaflets and let children cut the letters out. Can they spell their name or make words and sentences with these letters?
- Visit the library and find new books together. Get excited about discovering new books.
- Find every opportunity you can to draw attention to reading in the world around your child. Look at labels in shops, signs when driving or at the park. Make purposeful links with reading.
- Read stories to your child and share your favourite books with them.
- Make time for reading together - not just at bedtime or in the car. Carve out time for some valuable reading experiences.
- Write a book review together.
- Draw a picture of a character in the story and label it with key words from the book.
- Use non-fiction to engage children in purposeful reading. For example, follow instructions to make dinner or to create a model.
- End the day with a bedtime story.

