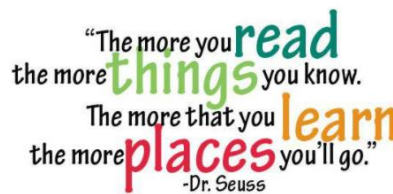




Read Write Inc (Phonics) at Park Way

Miss Muddassir is the Read Write Inc lead teacher. If you have any questions regarding Read Write Inc you can contact her on oak@park-way.kent.sch.uk

Please take the time to read the information below as it will provide invaluable information as to how you can help and support your child in reading. Your child's class teacher will be able to tell you which step of the programme your child is on.



What is Read Write Inc?

The Government strongly recommends the use of **synthetic phonics** when teaching early literacy skills to children. Synthetic phonics is the ability to convert a letter or group of letters into sounds that are blended together into a word.



Read Write Inc, developed by Ruth Miskin, provides a structured and systematic approach to teaching literacy. It is used by more than a quarter of the UK's primary schools and is designed to create fluent readers, confident speakers and willing writers. The Read Write Inc programme meets the higher expectations of the new curriculum and uses effective assessment to accelerate every child's progress.

How we use Read Write Inc at Park Way?

At Park Way, we use the Read Write Inc. Programme to teach phonics. All children are assessed termly and grouped according to ability.

All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 have daily Read Write Inc sessions, though some children continue with the Read Write Inc programme beyond the age of 7 if they still need support in their reading.

When the children first start in Reception, they have daily Read Write Inc sessions (Monday to Friday) as a whole class. Then between Terms 2 and 4, they are split into 4 differentiated groups led by a Read Write Inc trained teacher or teaching assistant. After Term 5, the children may be part of a Read Write Inc group with children from Key Stage 1.

In Year 1 and 2, the children have four Read Write Inc sessions a week (Monday to Thursday). In Term 2, some Year 2 children that are deemed fluent readers no longer have Read Write Inc sessions and instead have GPS sessions focussing on grammar, punctuation, spellings and higher-level reading skills.

Read Write Inc sessions are usually 45 minutes long.

Read Write Inc Explained

Set 1 Speed Sounds

The children start the programme by learning Set 1 sounds which are the letter sounds written with one letter:

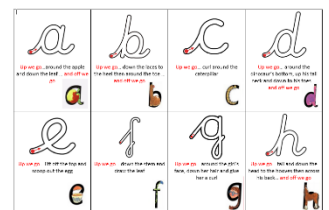
m a s d t i n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v y w z x

They are also taught the following diagraphs (where the sounds are written with two letters). Your child will also call them 'special friends':

sh th ch qu ng nk ck

It is important that your child says the sound and not the name of the letter. The sounds need to be said in their purest form, e.g. 'mmmm' not 'muh.' Watch [Sound Pronunciation Guide Video](#) to check if your child is reading the sounds correctly.

It is at this time, that your child will start to learn to form letters using rhymes. You can download the full set of Read Write Inc letters and their rhymes from our school website.



Blending

Your child will then move onto reading words containing the Set 1 Speed Sounds by blending. For example:

m a t → *mat*

b e s t → *best*



Fred the Frog puppet is used during sound blending sessions. Fred is only able to speak in sounds, not whole words. We call this **Fred Talk**. For example, Fred would say m-a-t and the children would blend the sounds and say 'mat.'

Fred Talk helps children read unfamiliar words by pronouncing each sound in the word at a time.

If your child is learning to sound blend, watch the '[Sound Blending Video](#)' for tips on how to support them.

Set 2 Speed Sounds

Once your child is confident in recognising the Set 1 sounds speedily, they are introduced to the Set 2 Speed Sounds. They will learn:

- Two letters can represent a sound known as a diagraph or a 'special friend.'
- A simple picture prompt linked to the 'speed sound' with a short phrase to say, e.g. *may I play*.



Green words are words that the children can read using their knowledge of Set 1 and Set 2 sounds, e.g. *s t ay* → *stay*

These are the Set 2 Speed Sounds and their phrases:

Sound	Phrase	Green Words
ay	ay: may I play	day; play; stay; may; tray
ee	ee: what can you see?	seen; need; three; sleep
igh	igh: fly high	high; light; fright; might
ow	ow: blow the snow	snow; flow; show; know
oo	oo: poo at the zoo	fool; mood; spoon; moon
oo	oo: look at the book	took; shook; foot; cook
ar	ar: start the car	sharp; bark; park; spark
or	or: shut the door	short; floor; snort

If your child is learning the Set 2 Speed Sounds, you could help them by completing the [Speed Sounds Practise Sheets](#) for the Sounds they have learnt or by reading the free [eBooks](#) from the Oxford Owl website at Red Ditty level, then Green level and then Purple level in order.



Set 3 Speed Sounds

When learning their Set 3 Speed Sounds, the children will be taught that there are sometimes more than one way in which the same sounds can be written.

For example: **ee** as in 'tree' and **ea** as in 'tea.'

The table below shows the sound, the associated phrase and example green words:

Sound	Rhyme	Green Words
a-e	a-e: make a cake	shake; name; same; brave
ea	ea: cup of tea	neat; clean; please
i-e	i-e: nice smile	hide; shine; white; wide
o-e	o-e: phone home	hope; home; rose; spoke
u-e	u-e: huge brute	tune; rude; June
aw	aw: yawn at dawn	straw; drawn; lawn; fawn
are	are: care and share	bare; spare; square
ur	ur: nurse with a purse	burn; turn; hurl; burp
ow	ow: brown cow	howl' down; drown; gown
oi	oi: spoil the boy	join; coin; voice; choice
Ai	ai: snail in the rain	Paint; train' plain; strain
E	e: he me she we	He; me; she; we
oa	oa: goat in a boat	Toad; road; oak; throat
ew	ew: chew the stew	Knew; flew; blew
er	er: better letter	Never; weather; hamster
ire	ire: fire fire	Spire; bonfire; inspire
ear	ear: hear with your ear	Fear; dear; spear; year
ure	ure: sure its pure	picture; mixture; adventure

If your child is learning the Set 3 Speed Sounds, you could help them by completing the [Speed Sounds Practise Sheets](#) for the Sounds they have learnt or by reading the free [eBooks](#) from the Oxford Owl website at Pink level, then Orange level and then Yellow level in order.

Reading Books with Set 1, 2 and 3 Speed Sounds

Once your child has learnt all three sets of Speed Sounds, they need to practise them and read books with words made up of those sounds.

They could:

- Complete [Speed Sounds Practise Sheets](#) for the Set 3 Speed Sounds
- Read [eBooks](#) at the Blue level and Grey level.

Nonsense/ Alien Words

As children build up their knowledge of sounds, they are able to apply their decoding skills to any unfamiliar word, may it be real or nonsense. During lessons each day, the children will practise their decoding skills by sounding out the letters in 'Alien Words.' This is an important part of the Phonics Screening Test children complete at the end of Year 1.



The following websites have enjoyable games for your child to play to practise their 'alien' words:

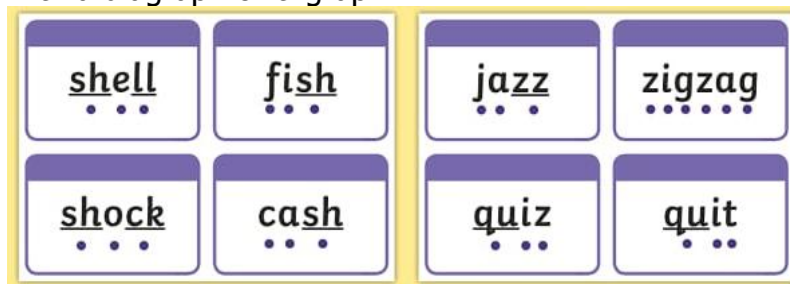
- <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
- <http://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/literacy.html>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcqqtftr>

Spelling in Read Write Inc

Children are taught to use their fingers to help them write words. The children say the word out aloud and break it down into its individual sounds. They pinch each finger as they say the sounds needed in the word then they write the letters that represent each sound.



Children are also encouraged to use 'Sound Buttons' to help them spell with a dot representing a sound represented by one letter and a line representing a sound spelt with a diagraph or trigraph:



Finally, don't worry if your child is struggling at first with their sounds and words. They will get there in their own time. If you have time (we know it is very precious!) we would urge you to try and read stories to your child before they go to bed. This will help develop a wider vocabulary which makes a vast difference to their quality of writing. It will also encourage them to enjoy the written word.

Miss A Muddassir