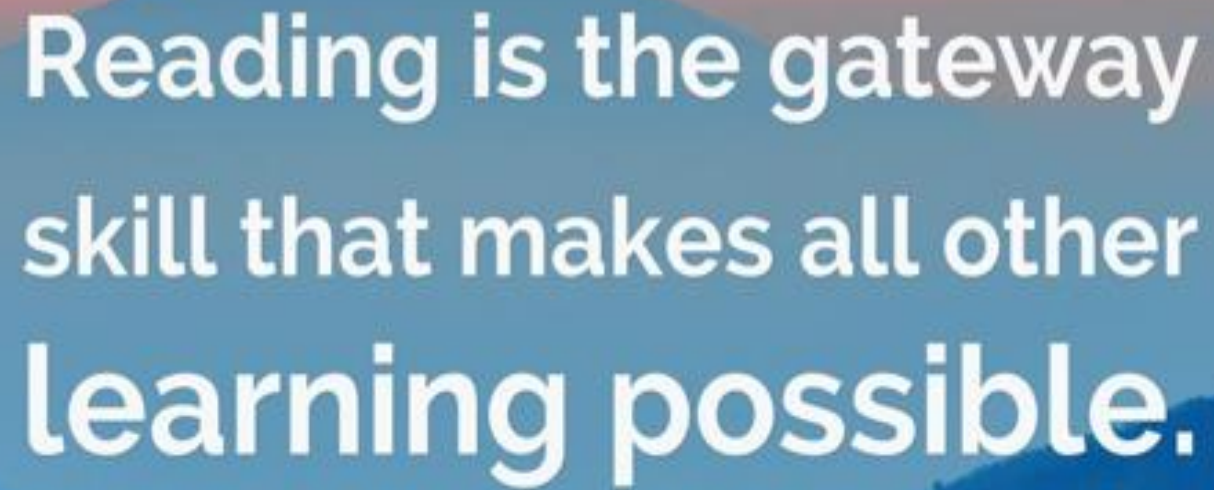


READING AND PHONICS MEETING

Reception 2023

Reading- Why is it so important?



Reading is the gateway
skill that makes all other
learning possible.

Barack Obama

- It is vital to functioning in today's society (road signs, medicine bottles, maps).
- Develops the mind and language skills.
- Develops the imagination.
- Develops the creative side of people.
- People who can read generally have higher self esteem.
- Good reading skills improves spelling and expands vocabulary.
- A person who knows how to read can educate themselves in any area of life they're interested in.

How do we help children to become readers?







It is vital that the school and family work in partnership to develop children's reading.

The school will:

- Promote a love of reading.
- Read lots of stories and share information books with your children.
- Read with your child once a week (this may be games or books).
- Teach systematic phonics daily.
- Teach sight words.
- Send reading scheme books home twice a week.
- Visit the library weekly where children can enjoy books with their friends and also choose a book to take home.

Home grown ups will:

- Promote a love of reading.
- Read and share a range of stories/ non-fiction daily with your child.
- Read your child's reading scheme book 5 times a week (books will be changed 2 times a week)
- Complete the reading diary each time you read their school book.
- Keep the reading book and diary in book bags every day and ensure they are returned to be changed twice a week.
- Support our teaching of phonics using the sound book that is sent home.
- Play phonics/ reading games when they are sent home.
- Practise reading sight words (wizard words) when they are sent home.
- Volunteer as part of our school reading army if you have any spare time.










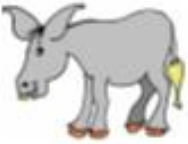
					
Ph	o	n	i	c	s

What is Phonics?

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

Written language can be compared to a code, so knowing the sounds of individual letters and how those letters sound when they're combined will help children decode words as they read.

- Understanding phonics will also help children know which letters to use when they are writing words.
- Phonics involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. For example, the sound *k* can be spelled as *c*, *k*, *ck* or *ch*.
- Teaching children to blend the sounds of letters together helps them decode unfamiliar or unknown words by sounding them out. For example, when a child is taught the sounds for the letters *t*, *p*, *a* and *s*, they can start to build up the words: "tap", "taps", "pat", "pats" and "sat".

									
T	<u>er</u> m	i	n	o	l	o	g	y	

Phoneme

The smallest unit of sound. There are approximately 44 phonemes in English (depending on accent). Phonemes can be put together to make words.

Grapheme

A way of writing down a phoneme. Graphemes can be made up of 1 letter e.g. **t**, 2 letters e.g. **ch**, 3 letters e.g. **igh** or 4 letters e.g. **eigh**.

GPC

This is short for Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence. Knowing a GPC means being able to match a phoneme to a grapheme and vice versa.

Digraph

A grapheme containing two letters that makes one sound (phoneme).

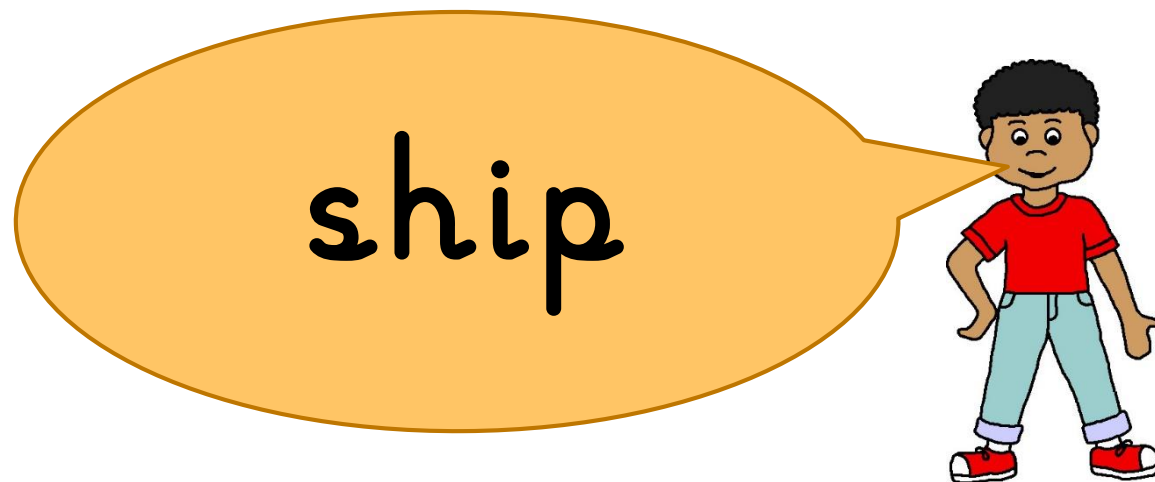
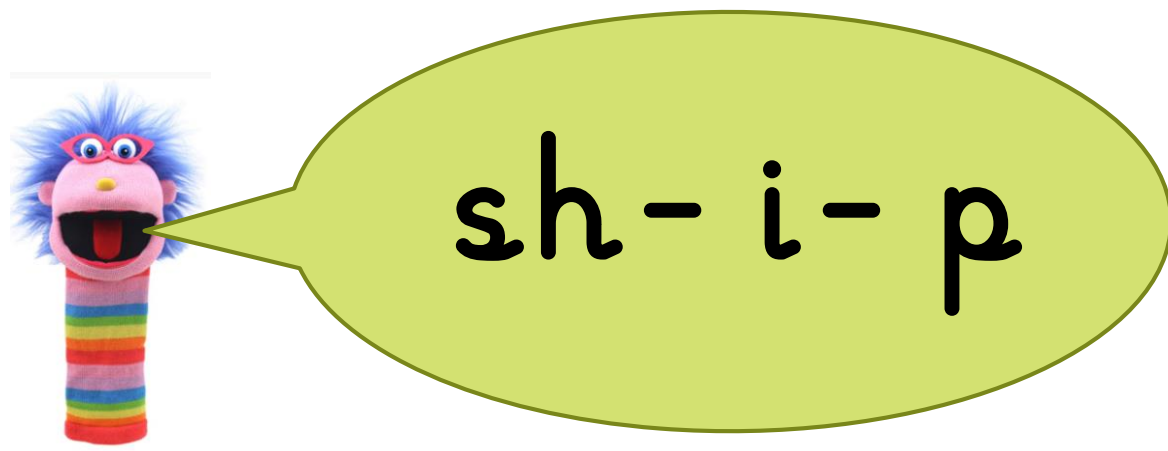
Trigraph

A grapheme containing three letters that makes one sound (phoneme).

Applying phonics in reading

Oral Blending

Hearing phonemes and being able to merge them together to make a word. Children need to develop this skill before they will be able to blend written words.



Blending

Looking at each grapheme within a written word and using knowledge of GPCs to work out which phoneme each grapheme represents. The phonemes are then merged together to make a word. This is the basis of reading.

Applying phonics in spelling

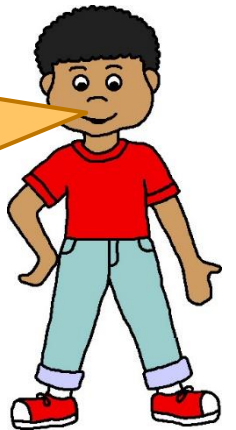
Oral Segmenting

Hearing a whole word and then splitting it up into the phonemes that make it. Children need to develop this skill before they will be able to segment words to spell them.



ring

r - i - ng



Segmenting

Splitting up a heard word into the phonemes that make it and using knowledge of GPCs to work out which graphemes represent those phonemes. Those graphemes are then written down in the right order. This is the basis of spelling.

Should we use letter names or sounds when we teach phonics?

STEM sentences to use with children:

“The word snail has 4 sounds but is made up of 5 letters.”

“The letters making the ai sound in snail are a and i (use letter names).”

What about

light

string

cake

torch

How is Phonics taught here?

Children have a daily phonics lesson.

A new sound is introduced on 4 out of 5 lessons each week through a multi sensory approach.
















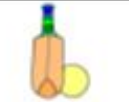


























A typical lesson structure...

Children are taught to recognise sounds in isolation and to apply this knowledge to be able to blend and segment words when they read and write.

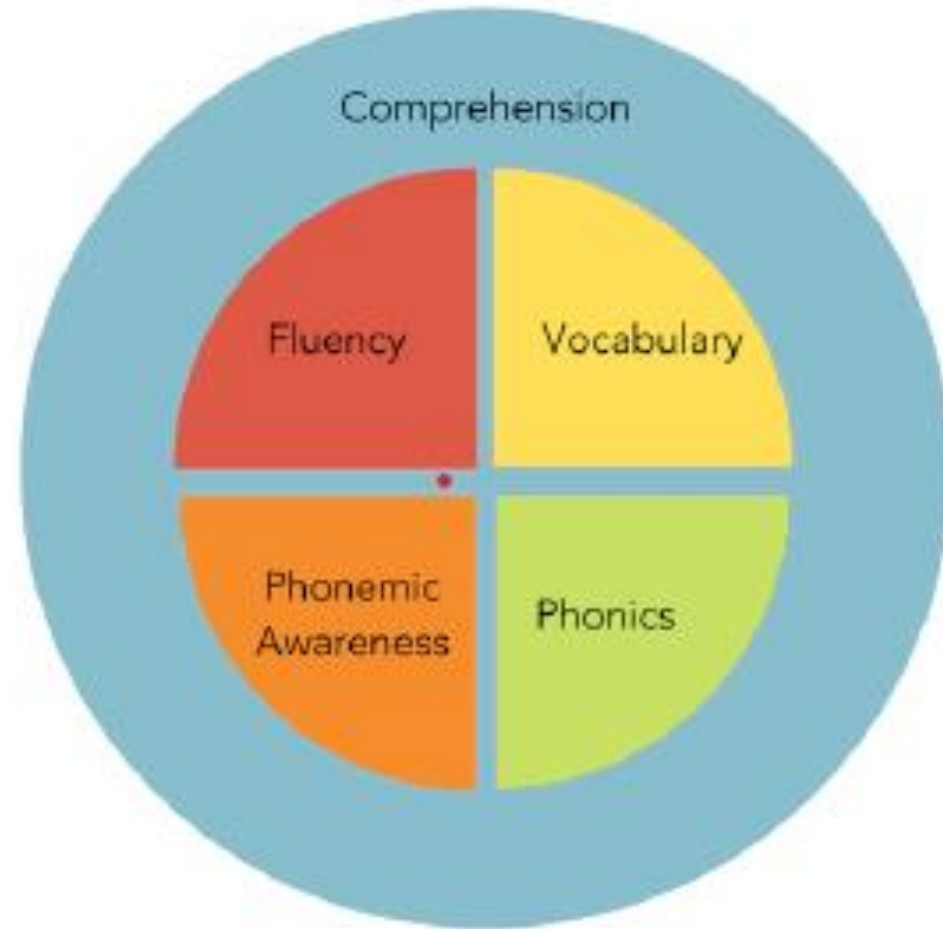
Sound books are sent home with new sounds added weekly for you to practise with your child daily.

Reading books closely match the stage of phonics children are at and these are read in school and at home.

Sound mats

Phase 2 and 3								
 s	 a	 t	 p	 i	 n	 m	 d	 g
 c	 k	 e	 u	 r	 h	 b	 f	 l
 j	 v	 w	 x	 y	 z			
 qu	 sh	 ch	 th	 ng	 ee	 or	 ai	 oa
 oi	 oo	 ar	 er ur	 ow	 igh	 ear	 air	 ure

Is reading only taught through phonics?





Home School Reading Agreement

Reading is an essential part of our learning here at Downs Infant School and we aim to nurture a love of reading in all of our children. We ask for your support in helping us achieve this by regularly sharing books and reading with your child at home.

Children will bring home an appropriately levelled book and their reading diary in a plastic wallet and we ask that they read this to you 5 times a week and you complete the diary. Books will be changed every Monday and Thursday but please keep their reading wallet and contents in book bags every day.

Because reading is such an important part of your child's learning journey, we will be closely monitoring engagement with reading to ensure that reading is happening at home as well as at school. If your child does not consistently read or bring in their book, the school will contact you to see what support can be offered.

If you wish to read additional books, these can be accessed online as often as you wish through Bug Club. As well as their levelled book, the children will also have regular access to library books for you to enjoy and share together.

Thank you for your support.

Reading is the gateway
skill that makes all other
learning possible.

Barack Obama



Please sign and return to school

Home School Reading Agreement

Parents/ carers

I/ we have read and understood the home school reading agreement and agree to read with my child and complete the reading diary 5 times a week. I/ we will ensure books are returned on Mondays and Thursdays so that they can be changed.

Signed _____

Date _____

Children

I promise to read my school reading book with my home grown up and bring it back every Monday and Thursday.

Name _____

Reading is the gateway
skill that makes all other
learning possible.

Barack Obama



Q&A

Do I have to read 5x per week with my child?

Ideally yes! Reading is the single most important skill a child can learn and the more you practice, the better you get. This is one of the reasons that we do not set any other homework as we want reading to be the priority at home and school. However we realise that despite ones best efforts it isn't always possible to read 5 x per week and so we ask for an absolute minimum of 3 x per week.

My child refuses to read. What do I do?

Sometimes a child can refuse to read a book and it may be because they are tired or hungry. It is always best to read a book after a snack and not just before bedtime (use this time instead to read to them and enjoy stories together.)

If it really is a struggle, don't have a battle but instead read and enjoy a book with them, or encourage them to read anything – a shopping list, street signs, comic books, reading games, cereal packets. Record your reading attempts in the diary so that the class teacher can offer support where necessary.

My child brings a book home that they have already read. Is this OK?

Yes. A major part of learning to read is through rereading books to develop fluency. Rereading a book also raises confidence as the child sees the progress that they are making.

I have forgotten to fill in the reading diary. Will my child get in trouble?

No – we are working hard to raise the profile of reading in our school as we believe that it is so important. We understand that sometimes things will be forgotten and so we will send reminders to all home grown-ups the night before books are due to be changed.

What happens if I lose the book or reading diary?

Contact the class teacher as soon as possible so that they can arrange for a new book/reading diary. There may be charge for this.

What do I write in the diary?

Short and sweet is best. Eg. "Barry read well today. Struggled with the word 'giant'"



Th

a

n

k

y

ou