

English Skills Coverage and Progression



READING

Nursery

Phonics and decoding

- To enjoy rhyming and rhythmic activities.
- To show an awareness of rhyme and alliteration.
- To recognise rhythm in spoken words.

Fluency

- To show interest in illustrations and print in books and print in the environment.
- To recognise familiar words and signs, such as own name and advertising logos.
- To look at books independently.
- To handle books carefully.
- To hold books the correct way up and turn pages.

Comprehension

- To know that print carries meaning and, in English, is read from left to right and top to bottom.
- To listen to stories with increasing attention and recall.
- To begin to be aware of the way stories are structured.
- To describe main story settings, events and principal characters.
- To suggest how a story might end.

Non-Fiction

- To know that information can be relayed in the form of print.

Reception - Literacy

Word reading, phonics and decoding

- To continue a rhyming string.
- To hear and say the initial sound in words.
- To segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together and know which letter represents some of them.
- To link sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet.
- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs. (ELG)
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending. (ELG)
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words. (ELG)

Fluency

- To begin to read words and simple sentences.

Comprehension

- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. (ELG)
- Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories. (ELG)
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, nonfiction, rhymes and poems and during role play. (ELG)
- To enjoy an increasing range of books.
- To use vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by their experiences of books

Poetry

- To listen to and join in with stories and poems, one-to-one and also in small groups.

Non-fiction

- To know that information can be retrieved from books and computers.

Y1/2

Year 1 READING

WORD READING

RWI Phonics daily

Phonics and Decoding

- To apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words.
- To blend sounds in unfamiliar words using the GPCs that they have been taught.
- To respond speedily, giving the correct sound to graphemes for all of the 40+ phonemes.
- To read words containing taught GPCs.
- To read words containing -s, -es, -ing, -ed and -est endings.
- To read words with contractions, e.g. I'm, I'll and we'll.

Fluency

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READING

- To accurately read texts that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge, that do not require them to use other strategies to work out words.
- To reread texts to build up fluency and confidence in word reading.

Common Exception words

- To read Y1 common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in words

READING COMPREHENSION

Understanding and correcting inaccuracies

- To check that a text makes sense to them as they read and to self- correct.

Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

- To listen to and discuss a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry at a level beyond that at which they can read independently.
- To link what they have read or have read to them to their own experiences.
- To retell familiar stories in increasing detail.
- To join in with discussions about a text, taking turns and listening to what others say.
- To discuss the significance of titles and events.

Words in Context and Authorial Choice

- To discuss word meaning and link new meanings to those already known.

Inference and Prediction

- To begin to make simple inferences.
- To predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far.

Poetry and Performance

- To recite simple poems by heart.

Year 2 READING

WORD READING

RWI Phonics/Spellings daily

Phonics and Decoding

- To continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words until automatic
- decoding has become embedded and reading is fluent.
- To read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the graphemes taught so far,
- especially recognising alternative sounds for graphemes.
- To accurately read most words of two or more syllables.
- To read most words containing common suffixes.

Fluency

- To read aloud books (closely matched to their improving phonic knowledge), sounding out unfamiliar words accurately, automatically and without undue hesitation.
- To reread these books to build up fluency and confidence in word reading.
- To read words accurately and fluently without overt sounding and blending, e.g. at over 90 words per minute, in age-appropriate texts.

Common Exception words

- To read most Y1 and Y2 common exception words*, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word.

READING COMPREHENSION

Understanding and correcting inaccuracies

- To show understanding by drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher.
- To check that the text makes sense to them as they read and to correct inaccurate reading.

Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

- To participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them (at a level beyond at which they can read independently) and those that they can read for themselves, explaining their understanding and expressing their views.
- To become increasingly familiar with and to retell a wide range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales.

English Skills Coverage and Progression



READING

- To discuss the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related.
- To recognise simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry.
- To ask and answer questions about a text.
- To make links between the text they are reading and other texts they have read (in texts that they can read independently).

Words in Context and Authorial Choice

- To discuss and clarify the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary.
- To discuss their favourite words and phrases.

Inference and Prediction

- To make inferences on the basis of what is being said and done.
- To predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far in a text.

Poetry and Performance

- To continue to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear.

Non-Fiction

- To recognise that non-fiction books are often structured in different ways.

Y3/4

Year 3 READING

WORD READING

Phonics and Decoding

- To use their phonic knowledge to decode quickly and accurately (may still need support to read longer unknown words).
- To apply their growing knowledge of root words and prefixes, including in-, im-, il-, ir-, dis-, mis-, un-, re-, sub-, inter-, super-, anti- and auto- to begin to read aloud.*
- To apply their growing knowledge of root words and suffixes/word endings, including -ation, -ly, -ous, -ture, -sure, -sion, -tion, -ssion and -cian, to begin to read aloud.*

Fluency

- At this stage, teaching comprehension skills should be taking precedence over teaching word reading and fluency specifically. Any focus on word reading should support the development of vocabulary.

Common Exception words

- To begin to read Y3/Y4 exception words.*

READING COMPREHENSION

Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

- To recognise, listen to and discuss a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.
- To use appropriate terminology when discussing texts (plot, character, setting).

Words in Context and Authorial Choice

- To check that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context.
- To discuss authors' choice of words and phrases for effect.

Inference and Prediction

- To ask and answer questions appropriately, including some simple inference questions based on characters' feelings, thoughts and motives.
- To justify predictions using evidence from the text.

Poetry and Performance

- To prepare and perform poems and play scripts that show some awareness of the audience when reading aloud.
- To begin to use appropriate intonation and volume when reading aloud.

Non-fiction

- To retrieve and record information from non-fiction texts.

Year 4 READING

WORD READING

Phonics and Decoding

- To read most words fluently and attempt to decode any unfamiliar words with increasing speed and skill.

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READING

- To apply their knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes/word endings to read aloud fluently.*

Fluency

- At this stage, teaching comprehension skills should be taking precedence over teaching word reading and fluency specifically. Any focus on word reading should support the development of vocabulary.

Common Exception words

- To read all Y3/Y4 exception words*, discussing the unusual correspondences between spelling and these occur in the word.

READING COMPREHENSION

Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

- To discuss and compare texts from a wide variety of genres and writers.
- To read for a range of purposes.
- To identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books.
- To refer to authorial style, overall themes (e.g. triumph of good over evil) and features (e.g. greeting in letters, a diary written in the first person or the use of presentational devices such as numbering and headings).
- To identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.
- To identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarise these.

Words in Context and Authorial Choice

- Discuss vocabulary used to capture readers' interest and imagination.

Inference and Prediction

- To draw inferences from characters' feelings, thoughts and motives that justifies their actions, supporting their views with evidence from the text.
- To justify predictions from details stated and implied.

Poetry and Performance

- To recognise and discuss some different forms of poetry (e.g. free verse or narrative poetry).
- To prepare and perform poems and play scripts with appropriate techniques (intonation, tone, volume and action) to show awareness of the audience when reading aloud.

Non-Fiction

- To use all of the organisational devices available within a non-fiction text to retrieve, record and discuss information.
- To use dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read.

Y5/6

Year 5 READING

WORD READING

Phonics and Decoding

- To read most words fluently and attempt to decode any unfamiliar words with increasing speed and skill, recognising their meaning through contextual cues.
- To apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes/ word endings, including -sion, -tion, -cial, -tial, -ant/-ance/-ancy, -ent/-ence/-ency, -able/-ably and -ible/ibly, to read aloud fluently.

Fluency

- At this stage, teaching comprehension skills should be taking precedence over teaching word reading and fluency specifically. Any focus on word reading should support the development of vocabulary.

Common Exception Words

- To read most Y5/ Y6 exception words, discussing the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word.

READING COMPREHENSION

Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

- To read a wide range of genres, identifying the characteristics of text types (such as the use of the first person in writing diaries and autobiographies) and differences between text types.
- To participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously.
- To identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and to summarise these.
- To recommend texts to peers based on personal choice.

Words in Context and Authorial Choice

- To discuss vocabulary used by the author to create effect including figurative language.
- To evaluate the use of authors' language and explain how it has created an impact on the reader.

Inference and Prediction

- To draw inferences from characters' feelings, thoughts and motives.

English Skills Coverage and Progression



READING

- To make predictions based on details stated and implied, justifying them in detail with evidence from the text.

Poetry and Performance

- To continually show an awareness of audience when reading out loud using intonation, tone, volume and action.

Non-fiction

- To use knowledge of texts and organisation devices to retrieve, record and discuss information from fiction and non-fiction texts.

Year 6 READING

WORD READING

Phonics and Decoding

- To read fluently with full knowledge of all Y5/ Y6 exception words, root words, prefixes, suffixes/word endings* and to decode any unfamiliar words with increasing speed and skill, recognising their meaning through contextual cues.

Fluency

- At this stage, teaching comprehension skills should be taking precedence over teaching word reading and fluency specifically. Any focus on word reading should support the development of vocabulary.

Common Exception Words

- To read most Y5/ Y6 exception words, discussing the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word.

READING COMPREHENSION

Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

- To read for pleasure, discussing, comparing and evaluating in depth across a wide range of genres, including *myths, legends, traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage and books from other cultures and traditions*.
- To recognise more complex themes in what they read (such as loss or heroism).
- To explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates, maintaining a focus on the topic and using notes where necessary.
- To listen to guidance and feedback on the quality of their explanations and contributions to discussions and to make improvements when participating in discussions.
- To draw out key information and to summarise the main ideas in a text.
- To distinguish independently between statements of fact and opinion, providing reasoned justifications for their views.
- To compare characters, settings and themes within a text and across more than one text.

Words in Context and Authorial Choice

- To analyse and evaluate the use of language, including figurative language and how it is used for effect, using technical terminology such as metaphor, simile, analogy, imagery, style and effect.

Inference and Prediction

- To consider different accounts of the same event and to discuss viewpoints (both of authors and of fictional characters).
- To discuss how characters change and develop through texts by drawing inferences based on indirect clues.

Poetry and Performance

- To confidently perform texts (including poems learnt by heart) using a wide range of devices to engage the audience and for effect

Non-Fiction

- To retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction texts.
- To use non-fiction materials for purposeful information retrieval (e.g. in reading history, geography and science textbooks) and in contexts where pupils are genuinely motivated to find out information (e.g. reading information leaflets before a gallery or museum visit or reading a theatre programme or review).