



Hillsborough Primary School

Support your child at home with phonics and reading.

Learning to read is the most important thing your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it, so we put as much energy as possible to make sure that every single child learns to read as quickly as possible.

We want your child to love reading, and to want to read for themselves. This is why we put our efforts into making sure they develop a love of books as well as simply learning to read.

How will my child be taught phonics?

We start teaching phonics daily in Foundation Stage 1 (nursery). Phase 1 concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2, usually taught at the beginning of Foundation Stage 2 (reception). The emphasis during Phase 1 is to get children familiar to the sounds around them and ready to begin developing oral blending and segmenting skills.

Phase 2 phonics introduces letters and their sounds 1 at a time. This is where we teach the children the link between letters and sounds also groups of letters and sounds. We teach the children how to blend letters together to make words and segment words back to sounds in order to spell them.

You will find a list of the phase 2 sounds and the order in which they are taught attached. Children learn how to 'read' the sound in words and how these sounds can be written down. These skills are essential for reading but also begins teaching children how to spell. We teach the children actions to help remember these sounds, a list of which is attached.

The children also practice reading and spelling 'Tricky Words' (words that cannot be blended) such as I, said, have, once and where. The children

practice their phonic knowledge with their reading books which are carefully matched to the phonic phase they are in.

Teachers also read with the children so that the children know all sorts of stories, poetry and information books which helps with learning new vocabulary and help with writing.

More information about Phonics can be found separately on our school website. Also www.phonicsplay.co.uk is very useful and includes games to help your child learn their letter sounds.

Reading at home

Here are some questions you may consider before you even begin.

What does my child know about reading?

They may know:

- That you can find things out from a book
- Which way up we hold a book
- How to turn a page
- Some labels on food or shop names
- Some letters in their name.
- That books can tell interesting and exciting stories.



What can I do to help my child to read?

- Let them see you reading
- Share books together - it can be fun
- Books are important but they are not the only way to engage in reading - words are everywhere.
- Point out that print is all around us. Look at street signs, labels and posters. Link this to the letters in their names

- Write words for them to begin to read.
- Show them how you find things out by reading. This could be television programmes, recipes, application forms.

Ingredients

110g/4oz butter or margarine, softened at room temperature

110g/4oz caster sugar

2 free-range eggs, lightly beaten

1 tsp vanilla extract

110g/4oz self-raising flour

1-2 tbsp. milk



How do I share a book with my child?

- Choose the book together
- Before you begin to read, get a feel for the book by looking at the cover and talking about it.
- Let your child hold the book and turn the pages
- Look at the pictures and talk about them. They help your child understand what the book is about.
- Read the same book again and again if you both enjoy it. It helps them to remember the story and boosts their confidence.
- Read story books and information books.
- Read books that have rhymes and repetition, they love to join in.
- Encourage your child to use their phonic skills - segmenting and blending skills to work out words
- Look for key words and tricky words in the text. Point them out and remind your child that they will have seen these words at school also.

Remember: Above all reading should be fun and enjoyable!



When is the best time to read with my child?

- There is no set time for reading with your child.
- Find a quiet moment for sharing a book.
- Choose a time when your child is not distracted by other activities
- Try to choose a time when they are not too tired.

Phase 2 Sounds



www.communication4all.co.uk



Jolly Phonics Actions

Group 1 - phase 2 sounds

- s Weave hand in an s shape, like a snake, and say ssssss.
- a Wiggle fingers above elbow as if ants crawling on you and say a, a, a.
- t Turn head from side to side as if watching tennis and say t, t, t.
- i Pretend to be a mouse by wriggling fingers at end of nose and squeak i, i, i.
- p Pretend to puff out candles and say p, p, p.
- n Make a noise, as if you are a plane - hold arms out and say nnnnnn.



Hillsborough Nursery and Primary School



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