Learning Phonics in KS1

Friday, 2nd October 2026

Aims of the Meeting

- Developing a love of reading
- How you can support your child's reading development at home
- How we teach phonics and word recognition through the Read Write Inc. Scheme
- Example RWI 10 Minute speed sound lesson.
- Using the RWI books.
- How you can support your child's phonics development at home
- Year 1 Phonics Screening

2026 Annual Literacy Survey – National Literacy Trust

The National Literacy Trust's 2026 Annual Literacy Survey reveals a slight increase in reading enjoyment and daily reading among children and young people in the UK. Here are some key statistics from the survey:

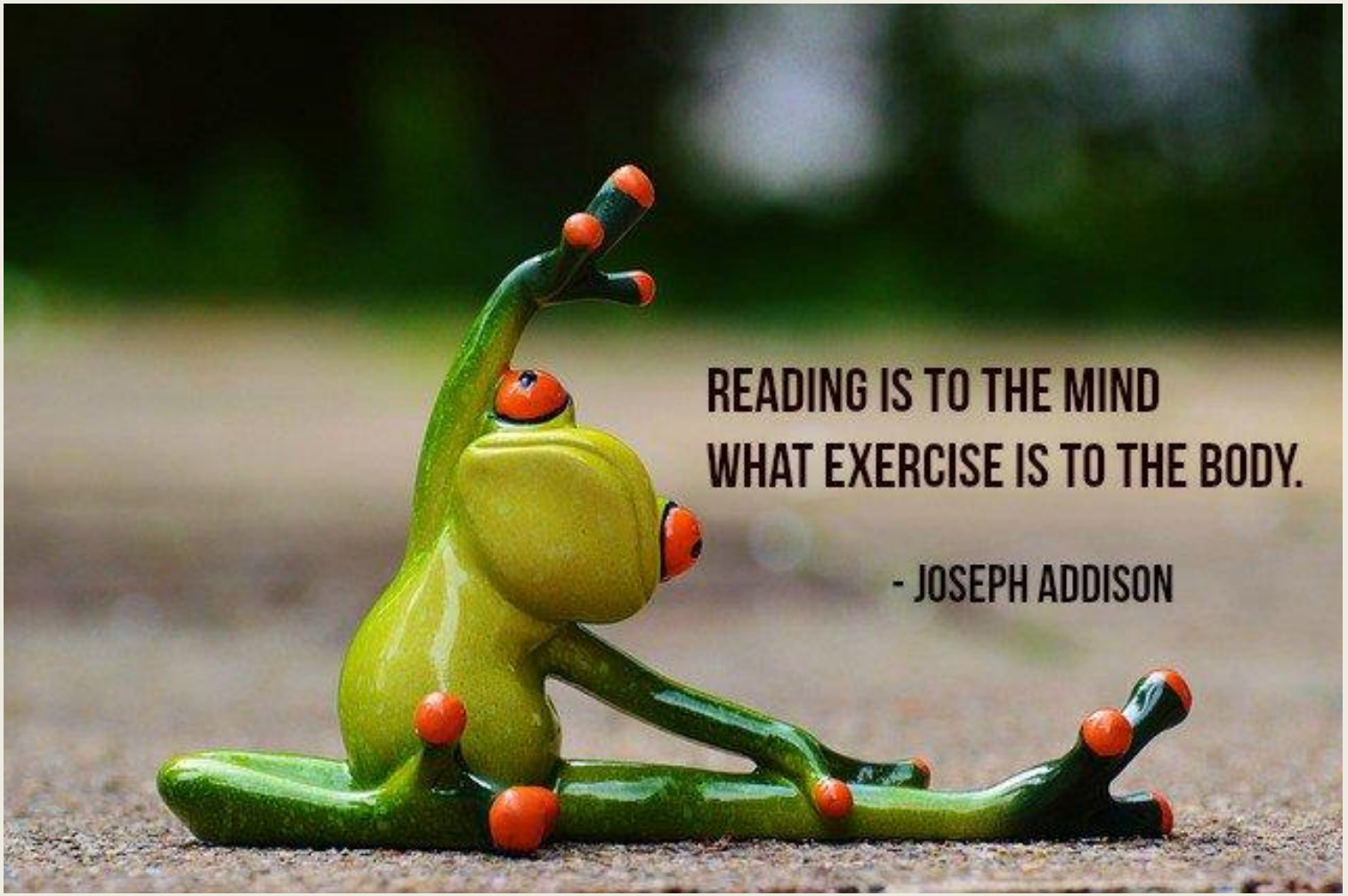
36.1% of children aged 8 to 18 enjoy reading in their free time, up from 32.7% in 2025.

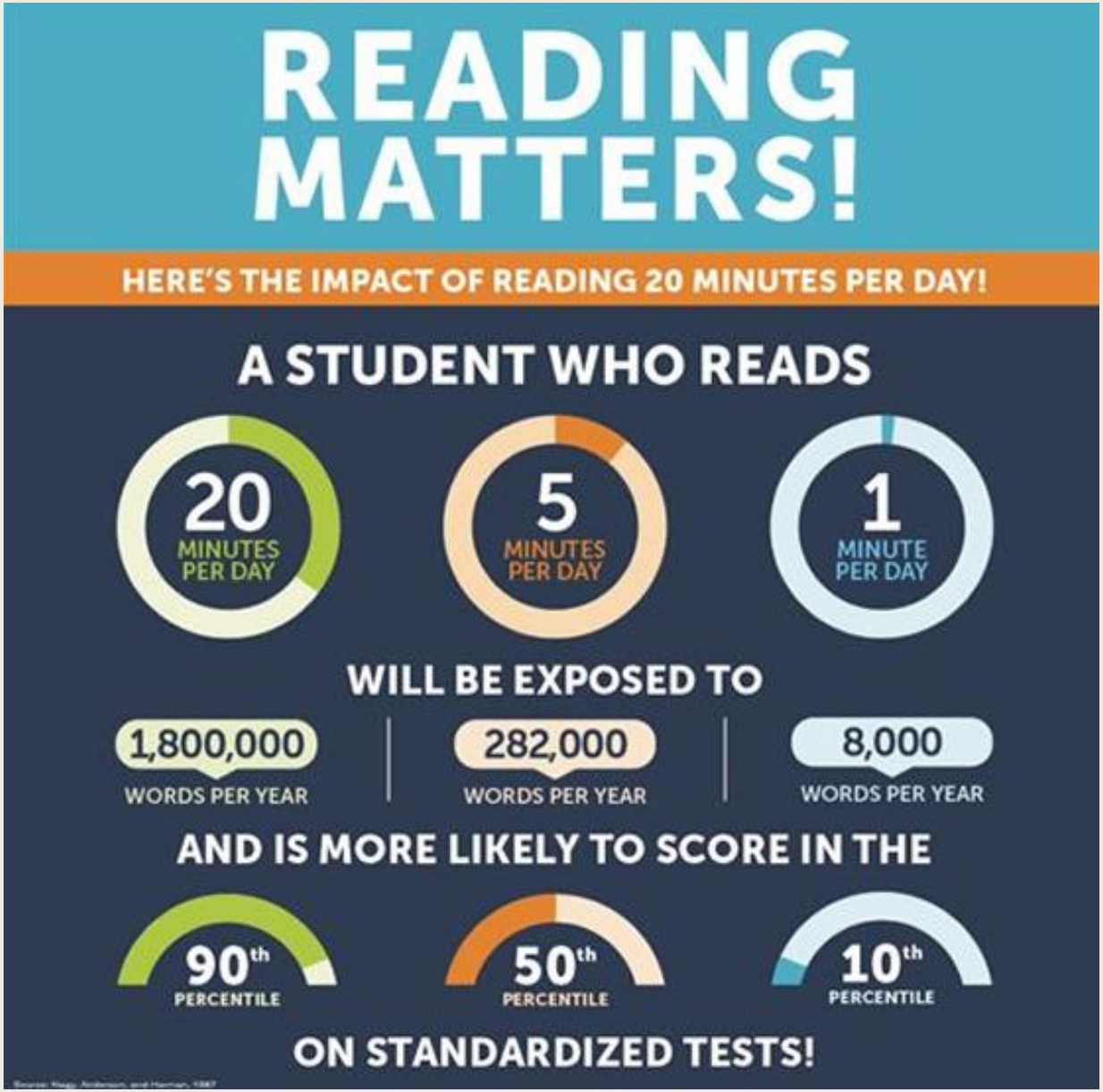
20.3% of children aged 8 to 18 read daily in their free time, a slight increase from 18.7% in 2025.

Reading enjoyment and daily reading increased across all age groups, with the largest rises among teenagers aged 14 to 18.

These statistics highlight the importance of reading in children's lives and the need for continued efforts to promote reading engagement and enjoyment.

Developing a Love of Reading




READING MATTERS!
HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!
A STUDENT WHO READS
20 MINUTES PER DAY
5 MINUTES PER DAY
1 MINUTE PER DAY
WILL BE EXPOSED TO
1,800,000 WORDS PER YEAR
282,000 WORDS PER YEAR
8,000 WORDS PER YEAR
AND IS MORE LIKELY TO SCORE IN THE
90th PERCENTILE
50th PERCENTILE
10th PERCENTILE
ON STANDARDIZED TESTS!

Benefit of Reading to Children

- Kids learn to value books
- Better Comprehension & Communication
- Expanded Vocab
- Academic Performance
- Creativity & Imagination
- Focus & Self-Discipline
- Bonding

STEM SMARTLY

BENEFITS OF READING FOR PLEASURE (FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS)

Improves literacy skills
Reading introduces new vocabulary, which improves communication skills! Also, it helps the reader to understand the world and learn different writing styles.

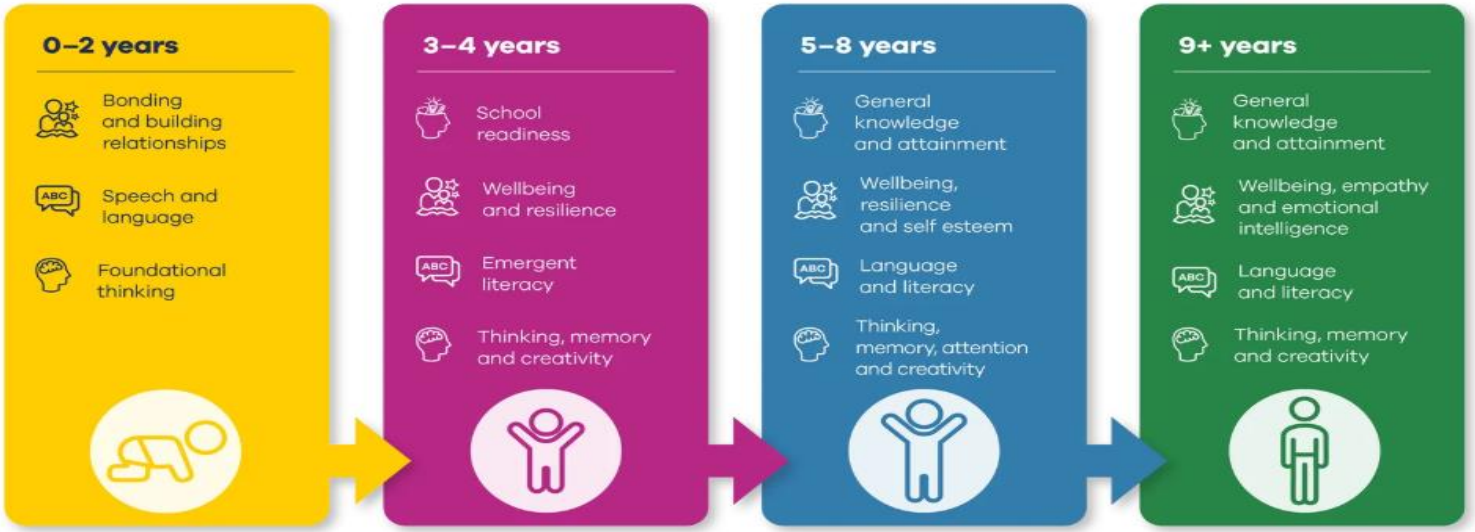
Improves concentration and the ability to focus
In a fast-paced world with ever-growing technology, reading is an excellent activity to help practise concentration and focus.

Increases knowledge
Books are filled with facts and experiences which you may not be exposed to otherwise. Dr Seuss was right: the more you read, the more you know!

Improves memory function
We are exposed to a lot of information in the modern world. Reading can be seen as a workout for your brain to help you remember details and knowledge.

Improves sleep
With increased screen time during the day, it is important to have time away from that blue light! Reading helps de-stress therefore calming your mind and preparing it to sleep.

Infographic: the benefits of reading as children grow



> "Several large longitudinal studies show that young people who develop the habit of reading in early childhood are likely to achieve high qualifications and upward social mobility later on. Together with the well-documented developmental benefits of reading, these findings point to reading as a powerful lever for reducing inequalities."
>
> **Professor Teresa Cremin, Co-Director of the Literacy and Social Justice Centre at The Open University**

Reading – How can I help at home?

Enjoy and share books together.

Read the book your child brings home from school.

Discuss meanings of new words.

Discuss the pictures.

Let the children see you reading.

Read signs, labels and posters.

Go to the Library.

Summer Reading Challenge.

Read Write Inc.

Read Write Inc (RWI) is a phonics complete literacy programme which helps all children learn to read fluently and at speed so they can focus on developing their skills in comprehension, vocabulary and spelling. The programme is designed for children aged 4-7. However, at St. Ursula's, we begin the programme in Nursery and will continue teaching RWI to children beyond the age of 7 if they still need support in their reading.

RWI was developed by Ruth Miskin and more information on this can be found on the RWI parents' page.

RWI Phonics

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/p14t5m78/sfNEosTj

English Alphabetic Code

- **44 sounds**
- **Over 150+ graphemes**
- **One of the most complex alphabetic codes in the world.**

Consonant sounds – stretchy

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng nk

Consonant sounds – bouncy

b	c k	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch

Vowel sounds – bouncy

a	e	i	o	u

Vowel sounds – stretchy

ay	ee	igh	ow

Vowel sounds – stretchy

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy

Consonant sounds

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					c		se			
					ce					

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				ge							
	ch				dge							

Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				a-e	e-e	i-e	o-e
					ai	y	ie	oa
						ea	i	o
						e	y	

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
u-e			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw							
			au							

Teaching Phonics in School

- **High quality RWI phonic sessions take place every day for Reception and KS1**
- **RWI supports development of reading, writing and spelling**
- **Phonemes and graphemes - 'Special Friends.'**
- **Segmenting and blending - Fred Talk, Fred in your head.**
- **Reading words 'speedily'**
- **Read and spell 'tricky words' - Red Words**

Example RWI Lesson

- 10 minute Speed Sound Lesson
- Teaching new sound
- Reviewing previously sounds
- Reading words containing new sound and previously taught sounds
- Alien Words
- Writing words containing new sound and previously taught sounds.

RWI Books

- Story Green Words
- Red Words
- Speedy Green Words
- 1st to 3rd Read – accuracy, fluency and expression (storytelling voice)
- Questioning
- Hold a sentence
- Yellow onwards - fluency, vocabulary and intonation.

Phonics – how can I help at home?

- Talk to children about the sounds they are learning.
- Use the links to the RWI Virtual Classroom to watch the videos at home.
- Help them to apply the sounds when reading at home.
- Encourage them to read new words in the environment using known sounds.
- Read Write Inc. Parents information page.

RWI Books and Book Bag books

RWI Books and Book Bag books

Please remember to read through with the children the Story Green words, red words and speedy words.

Order of books:

- Red
- Green
- Purple
- Pink
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Grey

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

- **Statutory requirement for all Year 1 Children to complete the screening check in June.**
- **Check carried out by teacher known to the children.**
- **Children read 20 real words and 20 non-words.**
- **Children's result will be reported to parents.**
- **Children who do not meet the required threshold will repeat the check in Year 2.**

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fkY8Urmo/HGPznLxM

Year 1 Phonics Test

grit

start

best

hooks

blan

steck

hild

quemp

Websites

https://www.ruthmiskin.com/parents/

https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/

Thank you