

At Swanwick Primary School, we use the Read Write Inc. (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their literacy. Read Write Inc. Phonics is a method of teaching reading and writing, which is centred around learning the sounds of the letters (phonics) and then blending them together to read words. The children also learn to break down words into individual sounds in order to write them. We start teaching this scheme when children arrive into the Reception Class. Each day the children will learn a new single sound, then this progresses to 2-letter sounds and vowel sounds. You can see the order of the sounds at the bottom of this information leaflet.

When using RWI to read and write the children will:

- Learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into understanding what they read.
- Learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts.
- Learn to read words using Fred Talk- see blending information.
- Learn to read words by blending the sounds together.
- Read lively stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out.
- Show that they understand the stories by answering 'Find It' and 'Prove it' discussion questions.
- Learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds (graphemes).
- Learn to write words by saying the sounds in Fred Talk.
- Learn to write simple and then increasingly complex sentences.
- Compose a range of texts using discussion prompts through our English lessons.
- Compose stories, Non Fiction and Poetry though our English lessons.
- Write simple sentences.



Blending

Children learn to read words by blending the letter sounds that are in the Speed Sound sets. Help your child learn to read words by sound-blending e.g. c-a-t = cat. Help children to say the pure sounds*, as quickly as they can and then to blend the sounds together to say the whole word.

The teachers will introduce your child to a toy frog called Fred once he or she is ready to start reading words. Fred can *only* say the sounds in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. Fred will say the sounds and children will work out the word. For example, Fred will say the sounds **c-a-t**, and children will say the word *cat*. This is Fred Talk: sounding out the word.

Fred can only sound out the words in the English language that are spelt phonetically- these are called green words. Words not spelt in this way are called Red words. These include words such as 'the'. These cannot be sounded out but must just be recognised by sight.

Set 1 Sounds

m	a	s	d	t	i	n
p	g	o	c	k	ck	u
b	f	e	l	h	sh	r
j	v	y	w	th	z	ch
qu	x	ng	nk			

Set 2 Sounds

ay	ee	igh	ow	oo	oo
or	ar	air	ir	ou	oy

Set 3 Sounds

ea	oi	a-e	i-e	o-e
u-e	aw	are	ur	er
ow	ai	oa	ew	ire
ear	ure	tion	Cloud	Cloud

Pure Sounds

How you pronounce a single sound can alter the way a whole word might sound when reading. For this reason it is important to encourage children to say the pure sound.

If you want to learn more, please visit the link below.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/find-a-book/read-write-inc-phonics--1/phonics-pure-sounds-video>

Reading at home

Reading at home is so important. It give you a chance to have a shared focus, discuss the story and make predictions. We can also see accelerated progress in children's English levels, when they regularly read at home. Little and often is the key!

School will send home weekly reading books. You will have a school diary to record any home reading in.

In addition to this, we recommend you visiting the following websites for further online books, reading games and phonics support; Oxford Owl, Phonics Play, ICT games.

Phonics Assessments in School

Children complete a phonics assessment at the end of each half term with their teachers. This gives us an opportunity to spot any learning gaps and to measure progress. In addition to this, children in Year 1 complete a Phonics Screening Check. This involves decoding a range of real and nonsense words, to demonstrate their phonics ability.

Thank you for your continued support.

