

# Reading at home

## Booklet 1



Your child is learning to read with *Read Write Inc. Phonics*, a very popular and successful literacy programme. This booklet shows you how you can get your child off to a quick start.

Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. He or she will learn to:

1. Read **letters** by their 'sounds'
2. Blend these sounds into **words**
3. Read the words in a **story**.



[www.ruthmiskin.com/parents](http://www.ruthmiskin.com/parents) has many videos to help you help your child.

For more information on *Read Write Inc.*, please talk to the *Read Write Inc.* manager in your child's school or visit [www.readwriteinc.com](http://www.readwriteinc.com).

**How to get in touch:**

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## How will my child learn to read?

First, your child will learn to read:

- Set 1 Speed Sounds: these are sounds written with one letter:  
m a s d t i n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v  
y w z x and sounds written with two letters  
(your child will call these 'special friends'): sh th ch  
qu ng nk ck
- Words containing these sounds, by sound-blending,  
e.g. m-a-t *mat*, c-a-t *cat*, g-o-t *got*, f-i-sh *fish*,  
s-p-o-t *spot*, b-e-s-t *best*, s-p-l-a-sh *splash*
- Blending Books and Red, Green and Purple Storybooks.

Second, he or she will learn to read:

- Set 2 Speed Sounds: ay ee igh ow oo oo ar or air ir ou  
oy
- Words containing these sounds
- Pink, Orange and Yellow Storybooks.

Third, he or she will learn to read:

- Set 3 Speed Sounds: ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw are ur  
er ow ai oa ew ire ear ure
- Words containing these sounds
- Blue and Grey Storybooks.

Your child will be taught to say the sound for the letter and not the letter name, so 'm' as in 'mat', not 'em';  
's' as in 'sun' not 'es'.

## Glossary

**Fred Talk** – sounding out the word before reading  
(blending)

**sound-blending** – putting sounds together to make a word,  
e.g. c-a-t *cat*

**special friends** – sounds written with more than one letter,  
e.g. sh, ng, qu, ch

**Speed Sounds** – the individual sounds that make

Read stories to your child with  
feeling! The more you love the  
story, the more your child will  
love reading.

This booklet tells you how to help  
your child:

- read Set 1 Speed Sounds
- blend sounds into words
- read the Blending Books
- read Red, Green and Purple Storybooks.



## How can I listen to my child read?



- Do not read the book aloud before your child reads it to you.
- Ask your child to read the sounds and words before he or she reads the story.
- When your child reads the story, ask him or her to sound out the words that he or she can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when he or she succeeds.
- Read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving. (Your child's energy is going into reading the words not the story.)
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures.
- Do it all with patience and love!

## How can I help my child with Set 1 Speed sounds?

Before you get going, visit [www.ruthmiskin.com/parents](http://www.ruthmiskin.com/parents) to practise saying the sounds clearly. The more clearly *you* say the sounds, the more quickly your child will learn them. We have our own pure sounds video on our website.

**Important:** We say 'mmm' not 'muh' and 'lllll' not 'luh' when teaching the sounds. This really helps children when they learn to blend sounds together to read words.

Your child will first learn the Set 1 Speed Sounds.

You'll see that each sound is drawn in the shape of a picture. For example:

- 's' is in the shape of a snake
- 'd' is in the shape of a dinosaur
- 'a' is in the shape of an apple
- 'm' is in the shape of two mountains.

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

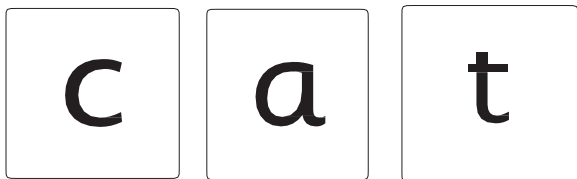
## How can I help my child read words?

Once your child can read Set 1 Speed Sounds confidently, he or she can learn to read words. First, your child is introduced to a toy frog called Fred. Fred can *only* say the sounds in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. So, when you hear your child say 'Fred Talk', you'll know this means sounding out the word.

You can help your child to read words by following these steps:



1. Make up a word with three cards that your child can read quickly, e.g. c-a-t.



2. Make up a word with three cards that your child can read quickly, e.g. c-a-t.

Point to and say the sounds, and then say the word. Ask your child to copy you. Muddle up the cards. Ask your child to make the word again, and then point to and say the sounds.

Repeat with more 3-sound words, including some containing sounds made up of more than one letter, e.g. ch-a-t, sh-i-p, th-i-s.

3. Put out three cards. This time, ask your child to say the sounds. Help him or her to blend the sounds into the words, until your child can do it without your help.

4. Repeat with some 4-sound words, e.g. b-l-i-p, f-r-o-g, g-r-i-n, s-t-o-p, j-u-m-p, h-a-n-d, b-l-a-ck.

## What is available for my child to read?

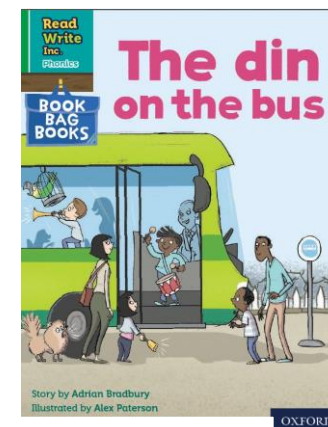
### Book Bag Books

Your child may bring home sound blending books. Ask your child to read each word in sounds (Fred Talk) and then say the word. Then, he or she can turn over and check if they're right.



Then they will bring home the Red books these books build upon the ideas and many of the words in the Storybooks we are reading in class. Your child may need more support in reading this book.

Explanations of how to use the activities are included in the books.



### Oxford Owl

The Read Write Inc. eBook Library on Oxford Owl contains a wide selection of fiction and non-fiction books for you to access.



### Reading for Pleasure books

Children will select a book from our Reception class library, that they would like to share at home with you. This is a book for them to keep for the week and enjoy sharing with you. They do not need to read this one themselves.