

First 100 High Frequency Words

(In frequency order reading down the columns.)

the	that	not	look	put
and	with	then	don't	could
a	all	were	come	house
to	we	go	will	old
said	can	little	into	too
in	are	as	back	by
he	up	no	from	day
I	had	mum	children	made
of	my	one	him	time
it	her	them	Mr	I'm
was	what	do	get	if
you	there	me	just	help
they	out	down	now	Mrs
on	this	dad	came	called
she	have	big	oh	here
is	went	when	about	off
for	be	it's	got	asked
at	like	see	their	saw
his	some	looked	people	make
but	so	very	your	an



Dear parents and carers,

In Mars and Jupiter Class we change books once a week.

On a Monday your child will come home with phonic sounds and after a few weeks the children will be given two books. There will be a mixture of fiction and non-fiction books. In order to help you develop their reading it is essential that you listen to them read as often as possible (ideally once a day) and that you support them in a variety of ways.

It will be beneficial to your child if you can listen to them read in three different ways.

- **First Read** - the first read phase concentrates on decoding skills necessary to learn to read i.e. the decoding skills of phonics and word recognition both new and unfamiliar
- **Second Read** - the second read phase concentrates on developing comprehension skills. This may be overt knowledge such as what is happening in the text or it may be developing what are known as higher order reading skills such as prediction, implied meaning and personal interpretation.
- **Third Read** - the third read phase concentrates on developing fluency when reading. This is developed through carefully supporting your child when reading aloud to you. You can encourage them to: work on pace and expression.

NB: It is important that you see this as a progression, as each type read builds successively on the knowledge already learnt. If all areas are developed then your child will become a confident and engaging reader.

Please return all books the following Monday.

Key Things to Remember

In order to become a confident and engaged reader children need to develop:

- **Fluency** - children need to be able to read at a comfortable speed with appropriate expression.
- **Accuracy** - children need to be able to 'decode' words accurately using a range of strategies ideally without disrupting the flow.
- **Understanding** - children need to be able to follow the content of what they are reading.
- **Enjoyment and Confidence** - children need to enjoy what they are reading and know that it is OK to get something wrong or to discover a new word.

When Reading at Home

When reading with your child at home you can help them considerably by thinking of the following points:

1. Find time to read - **don't** use it as a time filling exercise.
2. Little and often is far better.
3. Spend time discussing the book. - the cover and the 'blurb'. Find out what your child thinks the book is about.
4. Help **and** support your child. **It is Ok to get reading wrong. Do not simply tell your child the words, encourage them to work it out by:**
 - Sounding out the phonemes
 - Using picture clues
 - Using the context of the sentence
 - Re-reading and checking for meaning.
5. Ask your child questions to check their understanding:
 - What was their favourite part?
 - How did they feel about the main characters?
 - Which words show you what the characters are ... happy, sad, angry?

Please do:

- **Be patient** if your child can't remember a word that you think they should because they have read it easily before - helping them to work it out will be far more beneficial.
- **Give them time** - they need to know that you value the reading time. Try not to multitask and do other things at the same time.
- **Find time** - try to find time when your child wants to read rather than a time when it is convenient for you to listen to them.

Helping Your Child Learn to Read

Learning to help your child can be frustrating and is, most definitely, hard work. However, it is a life long skill and, once mastered, will allow your child to become a life-long learner, and as a result a more fulfilled at school. Reading not only helps us to widen our knowledge and experiences but also allows us to increase in confidence in many aspects of our lives. Helping children to read is most successful when done in partnership between school and home. We recognise that parents and other adults are more willing to offer their support, but sometimes feel unsure as to what they can do. We hope all the above is helpful to you. Remember class teachers are always available to give you advice if you need it. Please continue to make all the positive comments in the reading log. They are encouraging, both to the children and to the staff!

The High Frequency words are on the back of this booklet. However, many of the High Frequency words are not phonetically regular and are therefore hard to read in the early stages. Try to spend time each day helping your child to read and spell these words. It will help them enormously with their **reading** and their **writing**.

Little and often (at least five times a week) is far more beneficial that once a week on a Sunday evening.

Mrs Clarke and Mrs Lewis