

## Why is it important for your child to read at home?

Sharing stories, talking and singing every day helps your child's development in many ways. Reading and sharing stories can:

- Help your child get to know sounds, words and language, and develop early literacy skills
- Learn to value books and stories
- Spark your child's imagination and stimulate curiosity
- Help develop your child's brain, ability to focus, concentration, social skills and communication skills
- Help your child learn about the world, their own culture and other cultures.



## What books will your child bring home?

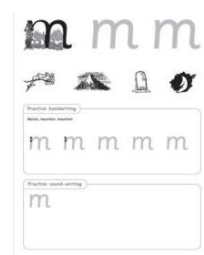
Your child will have a sound sheet and a book to read at home in the first few weeks of school

1

### A copy of the Read Write Inc Sounds they are learning in school

**Practice reading and writing the sounds your child is currently learning in school.**

*During the first few weeks in school, your child will learn to read set one sounds in whole class lessons. Practice reading and writing the sounds with your child at home to help them become fluent.*



2

### A copy of the Read Write Inc Phonics Book that they are reading in school

**Reading this at home will help your child become secure with the sounds they are currently learning in school.**

*Encourage your child to read this book independently although they may need some support with the sounds they are learning. Ask questions about the book and talk lots about the story. Don't just read it once – read the book multiple times to develop fluency and deeper understanding.*

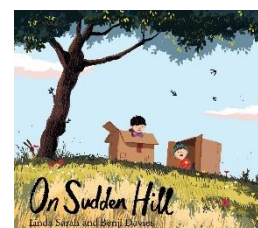


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### A book to read and share

**This is a high-quality book to read with or to your child and share the excitement and enjoyment of a story.**

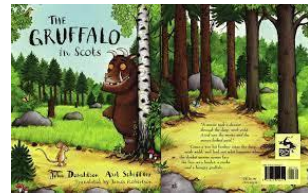
*This book may include words with sounds that your child has not yet learnt or is not yet confident reading. You can read the book to them, share the story and talk about the book to help them enjoy books and stories while they are still learning new sounds and words. It is important you do not expect your child to read this book independently – it is a book to be read and shared together.*



## Questions you can ask when reading

### Before reading the book:

- Can you point to the title? Or what is this (pointing at the title)
- What do you think this story is about? What might happen in the story?
- What do we call the writing on the back of the book? (Blurb)
- What does the blurb tell us?



### While reading the book:

- What is happening in the pictures?
- What has happened so far?
- Is that what you expected to happen?
- What might happen next?
- How do you think the story might end?
- What sort of character is .... ?
- Is she/he friendly/mean/nice... ?



### At the end of the book:

- Did you like this book? Why? (encourage children to develop an opinion about books by encouraging them to explain their reasons)
- What was your favourite part? Why?
- What was the most interesting/exciting part of the book? Can you Find it?
- What sort of character was...?
- What happened in the story?



## Helping you understand phonics

You will find a useful phonics audio guide to all these sounds in our Sound Pronunciation Guide video on the Oakley Vale Website in the Phonics section: Go to [www.oakleyvaleprimary.org](http://www.oakleyvaleprimary.org) & click on 'Learning at Oakley Vale' then click on the Phonics tab on the left

It is really important to say the sounds clearly to help your child learn them. We say 'mmmm' not 'muh' and 'lllll' not 'luh' when teaching the sounds. This really helps children when they learn to blend sounds together to read words.

### What is Fred Talk?

If your child's school is using Read Write Inc. Phonics, 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.

### It is helpful if you

- ✓ Say go back and try that again...'Fred Talk' it to help you.
- ✓ Let your child read the book again so they become more fluent and their reading sounds like talking
- ✓ Talk lots about the book
- ✓ Read to your child as well as listen to them read – make reading fun

### Things that are unhelpful

- × Don't ask your child to 'Fred-Talk' (sound out) all of the words - remember some can't be sounded out (to, the, said, was)
- × Don't Tell them they should know a word – help them work it out together