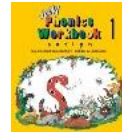
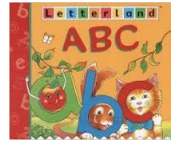




READING AT ELMS FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL



Reading Aims

Teaching children to read is one of the most important aspects of every child's learning. Children need to be taught the knowledge and skills to become confident and effective readers, so that they can read for both pleasure and information. We want the children in our school to:

- make choices about the sorts of texts they enjoy
- read between the lines and behind the images
- read fluently and with understanding a range of different kinds of reading material, using reading methods that are appropriate to the material and the reading purpose
- use a full range of reading cues (phonics, grammar and context)
- to gain library skills
- to enjoy reading books
- to use reading skills to search for information

At Elms Farm Primary School we believe that when home and school work in partnership together pupils can benefit from this support to make more progress reading fluency, confidence and understanding.

Reading Skills:

Phonics is taught systematically from Nursery class upwards using the Letters and Sounds programme. We know that phonic understanding is only part of the process of developing reading and that once children can recognise and pronounce words with growing confidence, that there are additional skills that need to be learnt and practised. These include: summarising stories, clarifying understanding, predicting, skimming & scanning as well as inferring & deducing.

In the summer term of year 1, the government asks us to do a phonics check of all the children. We will let you know how well your child has done. Children who do not pass the phonics check in year 1 retake the assessment during year 2 to ensure that pupils have made progress, if your child is a candidate for this then we will let you know in advance and also feedback the findings.

Every child is different and children will learn to read at different speeds. By the end of Year 2, most children will be able to read aloud books that are at the right level for his or her age. In Year 3 and beyond, we concentrate more on helping children to understand what they are reading, although this work begins very early on.





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Whole Class Reading:

From Year 1, children participate in 'whole class reading'. These lessons focus on comprehension of focus texts, developing children's skills in retrieval, inference & understanding of vocabulary. Classroom Assistants support pupils during this time, in addition to intervention groups for those who may need additional support.

Reading Resources:

At Elms Farm Primary School we source books from a range of schemes, choosing the most appropriate texts for the children.

We use several reading schemes:

- Oxford Reading Tree books (main scheme)
- Floppy Phonics books
- Dandelion Readers
- Rigby reading books
- Project X Code



As the children progress their reading skills they move on to selecting their own reading books to take home. We encourage children to make independent book choices that we hope will inspire and excite them to engage in reading independently, and read for pleasure in their own leisure time.

Additional Approaches:

We use additional materials such as Direct Phonics, Jolly Phonics, Letterland and Bearwords to support reading. We also use teacher assessment and marking of work to identify areas in which pupils need additional support.

In addition to class based reading, children can also develop their enjoyment for reading throughout school. They have the opportunity to access the school library to choose from a wider range of books on a weekly basis. Every classroom has reading resources which further promote and encourage reading for pleasure.

How parents/carers can help.

Within the first half term of your child starting Reception, you will be invited to a meeting so that we can explain how we teach reading and show you the resources we use. During the meeting, there are lots of suggestions on how you can help your child to read. Your support really does get your child off to a flying start and encourages them to make great progress!

You can help your child to sound out the letters in words and then to 'blend' the sounds together to make a whole word. Try not to refer to the letters by their names. Help your child to focus on the sounds.



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Make reading fun! Remember to keep reading *to* your child. They will come across far more adventurous words than they will in their early reading books and you will be helping them to grow a vast vocabulary, develop a deeper understanding of different stories etc. It will also encourage them to love books and want to read more; if a child sees and hears an adult reading they are inspired by them!

Useful websites

English Spelling appendix

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239784/English_Appendix_1_-_Spelling.pdf

Letters and Sounds

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190599/Letters_and_Sounds_-_DFES-00281-2007.pdf

