

Templemoor Infant and Nursery School



A Parent/Carer Guide to Reading and Phonics

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all as well as you can be during these strange times. We are all missing your lovely children and looking forward to seeing you all again.

I am sure you all have your hands full at the moment looking after your families, working from home and trying to complete home learning activities. I have outlined below some information/resources which may help you and your child at home.

Please remember that the most important thing during this time is that everybody is healthy, safe and well. Please do not feel under any pressure to complete these activities. We are all very aware that everyone's circumstances at home are very different and everyone is just doing their best to get through this time.

RWI Phonics lessons at home

As I'm sure you are aware, Read, Write, Inc. are streaming phonics, reading and spelling lessons every weekday on their [YouTube channel](#).

Speed Sounds Set 1

These are for children in **Nursery and Reception** and children who are new to English. Reception children have been taught Set 1 sounds. Nursery children are beginning to learn some Set 1 Speed Sounds.

Speed Sounds Set 2

These are for children in **Reception** that can read Set 1 Speed Sounds and also provide reinforcement for children in Year 1. The majority of children in Reception are currently learning Speed Sounds Set 2. Some children in Year 1 may benefit from recapping on Speed Sounds Set 2.

Speed Sounds Set 3

These are for children in **Year 1 and 2** that can read Set 2 Speed Sounds.

All children in Year 1 have previously been taught Set 3 Speed Sounds at least once and will need these sounds reinforcing.

All children in Year 2 have been taught Set 3 sounds. Some children may benefit from practising these again.

Films for parents

How can I support my child to learn Set 1 sounds and to blend?

- Use pure sounds, not letter names. Watch the '*how to say the sounds*' parent film on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

- Watch the '[Reading the stretchy sounds with your child](#)', '[Reading the bouncy sounds with your child](#)' and '[Reading the digraphs with your child](#)' parent films on to see how to teach Set 1 sounds.
- Practise reading known Set 1 Speed Sounds cards speedily. If needed, show your child the picture side of the card to help them remember the sound.

How can I support my child to learn Set 2 or 3 sounds?

- Watch the '[Set 2/3 tutoring](#)' film. Help your child practise reading known Speed Sounds cards speedily. If needed, show your child the picture side of the card to help them remember the sound.

Reading Books

I appreciate that many of you will be missing your regular reading books from school. Some Read, Write Inc. reading books are available at <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk>. There are also a range of Read, Write Inc. phonics activities available. You will need to set up a login to access the books. Please remember that in school we spend about a week on the same book. We practise sounds first, learn new words, then re-read the book lots of times to improve our fluency and comprehension. The teacher also reads the book to the children using their 'storyteller voice'. The children then read it back to us as storytellers!

Reading stories to your child

One of the best things you can do as a parent at home is read **to** your child. Loving stories is important because children who love stories want to read stories for themselves.

Some tips for telling stories

1. Make it a treat – introduce each book with excitement
2. Make it a special quiet time – cuddle up!
3. Show curiosity in what you're going to read
4. Read the story once without stopping so they can enjoy the whole story. If you think your child might not understand something say something like 'Oh I think what's happening here is that...'
5. Chat about the story e.g. I wonder why he did that? Oh no, I hope she's not going to...
6. Avoid asking questions to check what they remember
7. Link to other stories and experiences you have shared e.g. this reminds me of...
8. Read favourite stories over and over again – encourage your child to join with the bits they know. Avoid saying 'not that story again!'
9. Use different voices – be enthusiastic!

Storytimes/poetry

There are some wonderful websites available to help you with storytimes.

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com>

Storytime with Nick; films of well-loved stories read by Nick Cannon, a trained actor, teacher and trainer and a wonderful storyteller. Storytime includes books by Tom Percival, Cressida Cowell, David Melling, Jeanne Willis, Judith Kerr, Oliver Jeffers and David Walliams. There are also some wonderful poems available to listen to.

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk>

There are also some fabulous interactive books on this site.

<http://www.worldbookday.com>

There is a wonderful world of stories here where you can listen to some of your favourite books for free.

I do hope some of this information is useful to some of you. Please remember these are suggestions only. Please email us at the homelearning page for your year group with any queries or concerns.

Before I go I would also like to personally recommend the 'Draw along video with Rob' at <http://robbiddulph.com> which saved the day during a particularly fraught afternoon in the Brown house!

Sending you all my very best wishes,

Take care,

Mrs Brown

Deputy Headteacher and English Lead