































How we support children to learn to read:

At Little Oaks we follow the governments 'Letters and Sounds' guidance for helping children to develop the building blocks they need for learning to read. Using stories, rhymes, sound games and a language rich environment, where opportunities to develop language are planned into every session.

During the summer term before the children join their Reception class at school, we also start to use the 'Read Write Inc.' programme to teach phonics through fun, short, structured sessions each day with Katherine.

Using special pictures and rhymes for each phoneme (sound) and grapheme (the written form of the sound) and fun games with Fred Frog, who is only able to speak in sounds, e.g. d o g (dog) / sh i p (ship). The children learn the first set of pure letter sounds and digraphs (two letter sounds), how to form them and how to put them together to read words:

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 



Helping your child at home:

It is important that younger children are able to spend time developing their listening skills and a love for books and words, before any structured phonics are introduced. You can help them by spending time enjoying stories and rhymes together (see the guidance on the reverse of this letter) and talking together lots, introducing new vocabulary.

Stories, rhymes and talking continue to be just as important once they do start learning to read. However, once they are ready, if you would like to support your child's reading and writing at home, information and advice about phonics, such as how to say the pure letter sounds e.g. mmm instead of muh, use Fred talk "Time for b e d", and use the Read Write Inc. resources at home, can be found at: www.ruthmiskin.com/parents

We also have information about what phonics is on our Parent Forum and resources you can borrow from our Parents' Library. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to speak with Katherine at the start or end of any session 😊

Ten top tips for reading stories to your child

- 1 Make reading to your child feel like a treat.
Introduce each new book with excitement.
- 2 Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so both of you can see the book.
- 3 Show curiosity in what you're going to read:
Oh no! I think Arthur is going to get even angrier now.
- 4 Read the whole story the first time through without stopping too much. If you think your child might not understand something, model an explanation:
Oh I think what's happening here is that...
- 5 Chat about the story:
I wonder why he did that?
Oh no, I hope she's not going to...
I wouldn't have done that, would you?
- 6 Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.
- 7 Link stories to your own experiences (e.g. *This reminds me of...*)
- 8 Read favourite stories over and over again.
Get your child to join in with the bits they know.
- 9 Read with enthusiasm. Don't be embarrassed to try out different voices. Your child will love it.
- 10 Read with enjoyment.
If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.

