



11th October 2017

Reading and Spelling at Home

Dear Parent,

Your child has now been given a set of sound cards, to practice blending sounds to read words. Those of you who attended the phonics session will know how to do this, if you were unable to attend and would like me to explain please ask and I will demonstrate how we blend sounds. I have written some tips below:

Reading

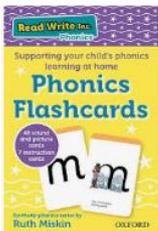
1. Ask your child to say the word first in an exaggerated manner: d-o-g dog. Use my turn your turn. Repeat a few times.
2. Show children how to make the word. Say dog clearly and say "I will need d,o,g – place the sound cards on the table. Use my turn, your turn to point to the sounds and say d-o-g. Sweep your finger under and say dog in an exaggerated manner.
3. Ask your child to make the word on the table. Ask then to point to the sounds and then read the word.
4. When your child can do this quickly, say a word and ask your child to find the cards and lay them out, reminding them of the sounds if they need it.



Writing

1. Say dog. Say the sounds as you press each sound onto 3 fingers – 'd-o-g'. Say dog.
2. Once children can press their fingers with the sounds tell them the number of fingers they need, the word to spell and ask them to press their fingers as they say the sounds.
3. When they can do this ask them to write 2 or 3 words, using their sound mat to help with formation.
4. Praise a lot!!!

I have sent the first set of sound cards home. More sounds will be added each week. I have also sent a 'reading book' home to share. The first books will be picture books and the children are expected to make up a story of their own, this is an important first step in learning to read. Let me know how you and your child are getting on, by commenting in the reading record. They may also bring books with sounds or tricky 'red' words to learn. Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you or your child are having any difficulties with the home activities.



To help your child at home Set 1 RWI (Read Write Inc) sound cards are available to buy on Amazon and we should have some available at school very soon. Only do what you feel is appropriate for your child, if they are tired or unwilling to read please do not force them to do so, just write in the reading record that you tried. It is still early days and for some children being at school all day is tiring enough! However even 5 minutes a day can make a huge impact on their reading progress.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Gemmell