



Information for Parents

The government are strongly promoting the use of synthetic phonics when teaching early literacy skills to children. Synthetic phonics is simply the ability to convert a letter or letter group into sounds that are then blended together into a word.

At Horn's Mill we have started to use a synthetic phonics programme called 'Read Write Inc.' produced by Ruth Miskin. Read Write Inc. is a method of learning centred around letter sounds and phonics, blending them together to read and write words and using these learnt sounds in reading and writing.



Using Read Write Inc. the children learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read. It also allows them to spell effortlessly so that they can put their energy into composing what they write.



The children are assessed and grouped according to their ability. They will work with a Teacher or Teaching Assistant on the Read Write Inc. programme. The children will be assessed regularly and put into new groups where necessary. In addition to the Read Write Inc. programme the children will also be working on writing skills in their classes with their own class teacher.

Reading

When using Read Write Inc. to **READ** the children will:



learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts



learn to read words using sound blending (Fred talk)



read lively stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out



show that they comprehend the stories by answering 'Find It' and 'Prove It' discussion questions





Writing

When using Read Write Inc to **WRITE** the children will:



learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds



learn to write words by saying the sounds and graphemes (Fred fingers)



learn to write simple then more complex sentences



Talking

When using Read Write Inc the children will also work in **PAIRS**:



to answer questions



to practise every activity



to take turns talking to each other



to give positive praise to each other



We are perfect partners!

Blending



Help your child learn to read words by sound-blending (Fred talk) e.g. c-a-t = cat
 Children learn to read words by blending the letter-sounds that are in the Speed Sound sets (shown further down the page).
 Help children to say the pure sounds, as quickly as they can, and then to blend the sounds together to say the whole word.

Home Reading

As part of Read, Write Inc, children will be reading each day within their group. This will replace guided reading and the book that the children normally bring home. Instead, the children will bring home a 'home reading' book. This will be a new book to the children. Please continue to hear you child read and record their reading in their black reading record. These home reading books will be changed with a Teacher or Teaching Assistant, normally on a Monday and Thursday, once your child's reading record has been signed to say that they have read this book at home. We encourage the children to read their home reading book more than once. In Read Write Inc. lessons we read a book 3 times. The first time the children read a book, we focus on decoding and reading the words. The second time we read for understanding and the third time the children read like a storyteller, with expression. We would like the children to be reading their home reading books in the same way.



What else can I do to help my child learn to read?

Read a variety of books (fiction, non-fiction, rhymes...). Discuss the different features of different books. Talk about the books and other reading materials that you have shared.

Explain the meaning of new words. Most importantly though, show the fun that can be gained by listening to stories and reading a range of texts, e.g. cereal packets, shopping lists, road signs, web pages, magazines, newspapers etc



For more information and ideas for supporting your child visit the RWI website



Oxford Owl
Help your child's learning



There is also a website www.oxfordowl.co.uk which is free and will help your child learn to read and love to read. There are over 100 free ebooks to enjoy with your child and there is a phonic guide which will help you how to say the sounds correctly.

The sounds taught are "pure sounds" and may be different to how you would say them or how you were taught. To avoid confusing the children the Oxford Owl website or the RWI website does go through the correct pronunciation of each sound.





Set 1 sounds

m a s d t
i n p g o
c k u b f
e l h s h r
j v y w t h
z c h q u x n g n k

Set 2 sounds

ay ee igh ow oo oo
or ar air ir ou oy

	<h1>Set 3 sounds</h1> <p>ea oi a-e i-e ai</p> <p>o-a o-e ue</p> <p>aw are ur er</p> <p>ow ew ire ear ure</p>	
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As part of the children's Read Write Inc lessons we have introduced some new classroom management techniques. These are silent signals when demonstrated by the teacher or teaching assistant the children respond to them in the correct way. These silent signals used in lessons ensure quick, effective management within the classroom. All children who are in the Read Write Inc. groups will be taught these signals which will ensure consistency across school.

My turn

Your turn



<p>My turn: When the teacher touches their chest with the palm of their hands it is the teacher's turn to speak.</p>	<p>Your turn: When the teacher turns their hands open palms to you - it is your turn to speak.</p>
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Silent stop signal

Finger instructions 1 2 3



If the teacher holds up one finger -
Stand up quietly.



If the teacher holds up two fingers -
Prepare to move to where instructed.



If the teacher holds up three fingers -
Sit down silently ready to work.

When a teacher silently holds a hand in the air you should raise your hand in response and stop what you are doing and wait silently. You should check that others have seen the signal and gently tap them on the arm if necessary.

1, 2, 3... Allows the teacher to give you quick instructions to move from one place to another.

Fun ideas to do at home

My mum went to market

Invite your child to play the game with you. 'My mother went to market and she bought ...' She has to buy things beginning with the same sound and the list of things she buys grows and grows. e.g - a sandwich, a sock, a sausage.



Read a familiar book with your child. After you have read it, can you remember what happened? Discuss together what happened at the beginning of the story? In the middle?
At the end?

Could you change a part of the story to make a new version?

The story could be retold by using puppets or soft toys.

Write some of the words your child is covering at school onto a piece of paper.
Ask your child to read each word in Fred Talk and then read the whole word.



Finally

We run Read, Write Inc. at 9am so it is vitally important that the children are on time for school, so that they can make the most of this valuable time.

If you have any questions about Read, Write Inc. or would like any more information about how you can support your child at home, please do ask.