

ACTIVELEARN OUR ONLINE READING PLATFORM

PARENT WORKSHOP - RECEPTION

TUESDAY 5TH MARCH 2024

Active Learn or Bug Club is a powerful whole-school reading programme that is proven to raise attainment in reading and spelling and is loved by over a million children world-wide.

- Children will have their own login details to Active Learn/ Bug Club and will have the opportunity to use Bug Club both in school and at home.
- Class teachers select a range of books appropriate for your child to read at home.
- These books will appear in children's 'My Stuff' area on their personal homepages.

- Throughout the books there are comprehension quiz questions which children must complete. To answer a question, click on the Bug icon.



- When children have finished all of the quiz questions in a book, they will earn coins which they can then spend on 'rewards' in one of the reward areas accessed via their homepage.
- All completed books move to the 'My Library' area of children's homepages. Children can read these books again if they want to, or they can choose new books from their 'My Stuff' area.

How children learn to read

All children are different, especially when it comes to growing and learning. Children will learn different things in different ways and at different rates. Learning to read is no exception. There are lots of things that you, as a parent or carer, can do to help the process, as talking and listening are the starting points for learning to read.

Most children are competent speakers by the age of three. Young children learn to make connections between spoken words and objects, and eventually between spoken words and written words. Talk to children when you are doing things in the house or when you are out and about. Play with them, read to them and sing lots of songs. All of this helps to develop children's early literacy skills.

Two key skills work hand-in-hand when children are learning to read: word reading and comprehension.

- ❖ Word reading
- ❖ Comprehension

Word reading

The skill of word reading is begun by the practice of phonics. This is the understanding that the different sounds in language (called 'phonemes') are represented by letters or combinations of letters (called 'graphemes'). Children are taught the sounds first, and then how to match them to letters. They are finally taught how to use the letter sounds for reading and spelling.

For example, the word 'crab' can be broken down into four phonemes, each represented by a single letter: c-r-a-b. The word 'night' can be broken down into three phonemes, one of which is represented by three letters: n-igh-t.

The ability to sound out and blend together different parts of a word helps children to decode new and unfamiliar words as they read, such as 'black' which can be broken down into the 'bl' blend, 'a' and 'ck': bl-a-ck.

The 44 sounds are usually taught in this order:

s a t p

i n m d

g o c k/ck

e u r h b f l

j v w x z qu

ch sh th ng

ai ee igh/ie oa oo (short) oo (long)

ar or ur/er ow/ou oi

air ear ure

It is important for children to practise saying the sounds rather than the names of the letters.

You can help build your children's phonics skills by:

- Familiarising yourself with the different sounds associated with letters and letter combinations by using the Bug Club Phonics Sound Board sounding out words.
- Playing 'I Spy' using the letter sounds rather than the letter names. This draws attention to words' initial letters.
- Reading poems and songs with repeated word endings (rhymes).
- Looking at the high-frequency words and sounds in each Bug Club book, all listed on the inside front cover, and trying out the word games suggested there.



Words
can
not
a
i

This book
practises



Sounds
c (as in cat)
i (as in did)
g (as in dog)
t (as in not)

**Top
Tip**

As your child reads,
encourage them to
point to the words with
their finger.



Your child may need help
with these words:
**nest jet see
balloon you**

**Have
a go!**

Mixed up letters

Help your child to make
words with these letters:

c a n p i t

Skill Builder

As you read, tell your child
to whisper all the words
that end in 't'.

Bug Time fun is
on the back page!

> encouraging children to use the 'Read to me' function of the Foundation and KSI Bug Club online books.



Comprehension

Comprehension is the skill of understanding.

This may sound simple, but it doesn't happen automatically. Many young readers concentrate so hard on working out what words they are reading that they don't stop to think about what the words are telling them.

For this reason, comprehension needs to be developed actively. Children should be encouraged to think and talk about the meanings of words and stories, their personal opinions and how books relate to their own experiences.

You can help build your children's comprehension skills by:

- asking questions about what has been read
- discussing how books' pictures relate to the text
- talking about how characters might feel
- asking the questions and completing the activities featured on the inside back cover of each Bug Club book

Fact file

Look through this book.
Where might you take a
lost animal to find out
where they came from?



Draw it!

Can you draw a picture of Spot?
Remember he will need one dark spot!

Answers Fact file The vet

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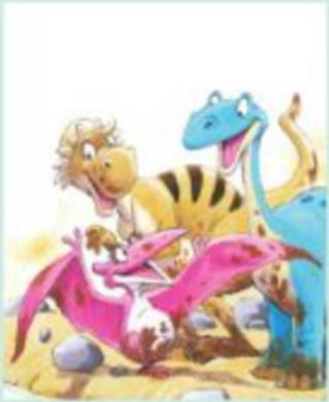
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resources.

➤ encouraging children to complete the 'Bug Head' comprehension quizzes in the Bug Club online books.



Drag the pictures into order to show Stretch's plan to get the water back.

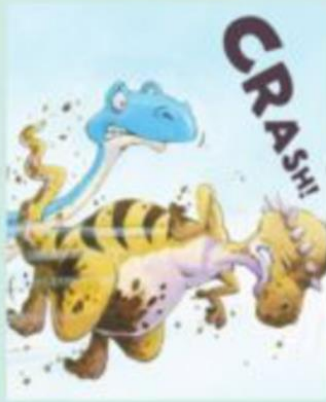
1



2



3



4



The quizzes can be accessed within the books by clicking the below image within the books - the number of Bug Club quizzes depends on the difficulty of the book (determined by the Book Band Level).



Reading at home

Research shows that children whose families read together at home are much more likely to become successful, confident independent readers.

We've put together some top tips to help you support your children at different stages – but here are two general tips to get you started.

Be a model reader: Help your children to see reading as a fun and natural part of life by seeing you reading and discussing books, newspapers, magazines and other texts on a regular basis. Having lots of reading material around the house helps with this.

Provide lots of choice: As well as integrating books into daily life, having lots of different texts around the house helps children to choose their own reading material and to develop their individual interests. Joining local libraries or taking children into bookshops to make their own selections is also important.

About book bands

Primary school reading books are graded by difficulty by reading levels known as Book Bands. Each Book Band has its own colour.

The book bands listed below show the progress of an 'average' group of children – but no individual child is 'average', so no child makes smooth progress precisely in this way. Children tend to learn in fits and starts – periods of growth followed by periods of consolidation when their progress seems to halt for a while. The periods where you don't see rapid progress may be worrying, especially after a 'growth spurt', but they are important as your child develops confidence in using and applying their newly acquired skills.

Book Band Colour	Reception/P1	Year 1/P2	Year 2/P3	Year 3/P4	Year 4/P5	Year 5/P6	Year 6/P7
Lilac							
Pink							
Red							
Yellow							
Blue							
Green							
Orange							
Turquoise							
Purple							
Gold							
White							
Lime							
Brown							
Grey							
Blue (KS2)							
Red (KS2)							