



Early Stages of Reading and Writing in Reception



Information for Parents 1

Oral Blending and Segmenting

The ability to orally blend and segment words is an important starting point in the children's learning how to read and write journey.

Blending (vital for reading skills)

Separate sounds (phonemes) of the word are spoken aloud, in order, all through the word and are then merged together into the whole word. This merging is called blending. For example, the adult would say c-a-t and the children repeat the sounds and then blend them to say cat.

Segmenting (vital skill for writing skills).

The whole word is spoken aloud, then broken up into its separate sounds (phonemes) in order, all through the word. For example, the adult would say cat, the children would say each of the sounds they could hear in the word (c-a-t)

We continue to teach these skills through games during our phonic sessions

Phonemes and Graphemes

We use this terminology with the children, a phoneme is a unit of sound (what we say) and a grapheme is the letter (or letters later on) that represents the sound. During each phonics session the children will learn the phoneme and it's corresponding grapheme at the same time.

Phonemes

It's really important that the children pronounce the phonemes correctly and without an 'uh' at the end . These are two really useful videos which demonstrate the correct pronunciations for this term's learning:

<https://youtu.be/shlSQrleibs>

<https://youtu.be/tKUEQFXXfYY>

Graphemes

The children will be learning a phrase for each letter that will support them with correct formation. It's really important that the children learn the correct formation for each letter from Reception so they can develop a neat handwriting style as they progress through school and it will also help them when they start to join letters later on.

Helping At Home

Each week we'll post on Class Dojo or email the phonemes we've been working on along with the phrase for correct formation and some ideas for practising the sounds at home. As the children progress and begin to blend sounds in words, we'll send another information sheet about supporting these skills at home.

We would love to see the children practising their reading and writing skills at home, please send us any photos via email, ClassDojo message or Portfolio.