

## **Bug Club Phonics**

East Worlington Primary School have an exciting reading programme called Bug Club Phonics. It is available for all children in Reception – Y5.



### **Learning to read**

We have chosen to use the Bug Club Phonics programme to help your child learn to read. The programme follows an approach of synthesising phonemes associated with graphemes a child sees; or put another way, learning to read by blending the sounds associated with the letters a child sees. The programme is the product of extensive research on the best way to teach children how to read.

The reading books your child brings home are designed to support them in practising and consolidating the learning they have done at school. They also enable children to experience the pleasure and pride of reading their own books.

All the books in Bug Club Phonics have been finely-levelled to ensure that all children can read books at exactly the right level for them. What's more, there are online versions for every printed title and a personalised website for each child.

### **Using the printed books**

Inside every Bug Club Phonics printed book there are notes to help you make the most of reading with your child.

**Inside front cover:** there are suggestions of things to do before your child starts reading, such as saying the sounds and practising blending them to make words as well as things to do whilst your child is reading to you; for example, checking their understanding of the story or information on the page.

**Inside back cover:** the activities here are to help your child consolidate what they have read and increase their fluency.

## Using the online reading world

If you have access to an internet connection, your child can enjoy reading Bug Club Phonics books online as well as in print. Each child has a unique homepage and can log into it by following these steps:

1. Go to [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk)
2. Enter the login details (provided by the class teacher)
3. Your child's homepage will appear.



## Reading a book online

We allocate books to your child according to their reading levels. These books will appear in the 'My Stuff' area of their personal homepages. There are quiz questions for your child to complete. By answering these questions, your child will earn 'ActiveLearn Coins'. By reading more books, your child will earn enough coins to 'buy' a reward in one of the many reward schemes.

## Getting involved as a parent

We strongly encourage children to read their books at least three times. The first time is to help them decode the text, the second is to develop fluency and the final time is to help them develop their comprehension.

**Before reading:** look at the book cover and talk about your child's expectations. Is the book likely to be fiction or non-fiction? Have you read other books together about these characters or by this author? What does your child think the book is going to be about?

**While reading:** support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading

them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.

**After reading:** talk about the book. What was it about? Did it match your child's expectations? Ask questions beginning with the words *how* and *why* to check that your child has been able to read between the lines. Ask whether anything seemed puzzling. Then ask your child to explain what the best and worst bits of the book were, and why.

### **Word/sound pots**

We will send home at the end of each week new sounds and high frequency words (HFWs) taught that week in class. It is vital that the children practice with these cards in order to develop their speed in recognising both the sounds and the HFWs. Some of the words are referred to as 'trick words', this means we will have taught the children which part of the word is 'tricky', such as the letter 'o' in no and go.

We hope your child enjoys reading on Bug Club!

If you have any queries, please speak with your child's teacher.