

Please find below some general information about Read Write Inc. phonics, useful links and how you can help with your children's reading at home.

- Glossary of RWI terms
- Reading
- Supporting your child to learn Set 1 sounds and blend

## Glossary

### What is Fred Talk?

When teaching *Read Write Inc. Phonics* to your children in school, teachers will introduce your child to a toy frog called Fred once he or she is ready to start reading words.

Fred can *only* say the *sounds* in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. Fred will say the sounds and children will work out the word. For example, Fred will say the sounds **c-a-t**, and children will say the word *cat*. This is Fred Talk: sounding out the word.

### What can you do to help at home?

#### 1. **Speak like Fred throughout the day**

(Can you put on your **h-a-t**?)

#### 2. **Play Fred games**

(See suggested Fred games in separate document)

#### 3. **Use 'Fred Talk, read the word' to read words.**

(**c-o-t**, cot / **sh-o-p**, shop / **s-l-ow**, slow)

## What are 'Special Friends'?

Special friends are a combination of two or three letters representing one sound, e.g. ck, ay, igh, oa. Children are encouraged to look for the special friends when reading to help de-code the words.

## What is 'Fred in your head'?

Once children can sound out a word, we teach them to say the sounds silently in their heads.

We show them how to do this by:

1. Whispering the sounds and then saying the whole word;
2. Mouthing the sounds silently and then saying the whole word;
3. Saying the whole word straight away.

## What is perfect pencil grip?

Children sit at a table to write.

They hold up a pencil in a tripod pencil grip with the non-writing hand flat holding their paper.

## Reading

### How do I listen to my child read?

Your child will have a Storybook matched to the sounds and words they know - a decodable book - so they should be able to read all the words.

Please try to avoid saying, "This book is too easy for you!" but instead say "I love how well you can read this book!"

You can remind your child to read words using '**Special Friends**', '**Fred Talk**', **read the word**. (See Glossary).

For example 'ship': spot the 'sh', then Fred Talk and blend to read the word e.g. sh, sh-i-p, ship.

### How can I help my child read Red Words?

**Red Words** are also known as common exception or tricky words. They occur in stories regularly (said, what, where) but have unusual letter combinations ('ai' in the word 'said' makes the sound 'e').

Remind your child not to use Fred Talk to read Red Words but instead to 'stop and think'.

Tell them the word if you need to.

### Resources for Reading

There are lots of free resources available on the Oxford Owl website: <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>

Within 'Read Write Inc' support there is a guide for parents with resources to support your child's learning:

- **Free e-books library**  
Aimed at children aged 3-11 to develop their reading skills at home. You can browse by age or by series eg Read Write Inc or Oxford Reading Tree.
- **Storyteller videos**  
A variety of ten minute storytelling videos suitable for all primary school ages.
- **Parent tutorials**  
These show how you can support your child as they learn Read Write Inc. Phonics with ideas and advice on pronouncing 'pure sounds', blending and digraphs.

https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/

Free eBook library – practise... x

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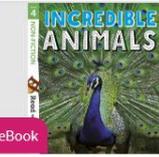
• Oxford Level 20 | Book Band: Dark red

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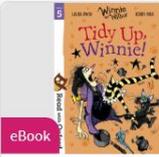
**Ron Rabbit's Big Day (from The Trunk and the Skunk and Other Stories)**  
Read with Oxford | Age 4-5  
Find out what Ron Rabbit gets up to on his big day.  
[Take a look](#)



**Colour Codes (from Incredible Animals)**  
Read with Oxford | Age 5-6  
Find out how plants and animals use colour codes to say things like Look at me! And Watch out!  
[Take a look](#)



**The Frog Prince (from The Frog Prince and Other Tales)**  
Read with Oxford | Age 5-6  
The Princess doesn't want to be friends with a cold, wet frog. But a promise is a promise...  
[Take a look](#)



**Winnie's Bubble Trouble (from Tidy Up, Winnie!)**  
Read with Oxford | Age 6-7  
Winnie magics a bubble so she can drift away from all the mess in her house.  
[Take a look](#)

## How can I support my child to learn Set 1 sounds and to blend?

- Use pure sounds, not letter names. You can watch the 'how to say the sounds' parent film at:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>

- Watch the following films on the above link also:
  - Reading the stretchy sounds with your child
  - Reading the bouncy sounds with your child
  - Reading the digraphs with your child
- Practice reading known Set 1 Speed Sounds speedily. If needed, you can show your child the picture side of the card to help them remember the sound.
- Watch the Sound blending parent film at the above link.