



Monster Phonics (our school phonics scheme)

Monster Phonics teaches children to read by enabling them to identify the individual graphemes (letter combinations) and blend the sounds (phonemes) together to read the word. It is a fun way to teach phonics, since it is multi-sensory. Sounds are categorised into ten colour groups, and each colour has a corresponding monster character. Monster Phonics is a highly advanced multisensory scheme. This creates interest and engagement from the children.

<https://monsterphonics.com/>

BBC Teach

Animations of some of the best-known traditional nursery rhymes, many sung by BBC Children's TV presenters, with music that your children will love!. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwdgwx>

Booktrust

Booktrust is an independent charity that works to bring together readers and books. The site includes lots of information on books for children and adults, and book prizes as well as interactive books to read together.

www.booktrust.org.uk

Epic

If you're looking for reading websites with digital books, this site has thousands of them, along with audiobooks and videos. You'll find endless popular titles from your favorite publishers.

<https://www.getepic.com/>

The Shrubberies School



Reading

Please read and learn about how you can support your child to fulfil their reading potential



Literacy is important for all our children and as a school we are ambitious about teaching them to read and write. Our children have to navigate the same written language, unlock the same alphabetic code, learn the same skills, and learn and remember the same body of knowledge as their peers in mainstream settings. It is a critical skill in helping them prepare for adulthood.



As a school, we are dedicated to creating a culture of engaged readers, and we are always working to improve our reading for pleasure pedagogy.



How can parents help at home?

- **Read to your child, regardless of how old they are!**
Age should not stop you accessing being read to!
- **Reading shouldn't be reserved for bedtime!**
Encourage reading whilst out and about – read signs, notices, information boards and even the menu when eating out!
- **When reading to your child check understanding.**
'I wonder why Tom opened the box?' instead of 'Why did Tom open the box?' This is less pressure and doesn't put your child on the spot.
- **Embrace reading the same books (over and over again!!)**
Reading a favourite book gives children a powerful advantage in learning how language works. The only person to benefit from a new title, is you.....and your sanity!!!

- **Reading doesn't always have to be about fiction.**
Some children just aren't interested in fantasy adventures and magical worlds. Some children choose to read informational texts and some children like them both!
- **Set yourself up to succeed!**
Get comfy (beanbag on the floor?), be prepared by reading the book first so that you know it well, support your child's book choices, set the scene by indulging in some book talk, share the reading, welcome interactions, let your child hold the book and know when to stop. There is no shame in abandoning a book!
- **Read together as a family.**
Siblings reading together or the whole family listening to an audiobook. Make books accessible in the family home.
- **Get more out of a picture book!**
Be led by your child and enjoy the illustrations. Tell the story your own way and have some book talk.
- **Give the right message!**
Adult behaviour has a significant impact on how children feel about books and reading. We must convey the right message.
- **Read to the dog!**
The dog never judges! When asked to read aloud, children frequently hesitate out of fear of making a mistake or not being quite good enough. However, if they are sure that their listeners won't criticise them, they will be more inclined to try.
- **Make it personal.**
Children are individuals and so when it comes to reading preferences, one size does absolutely not, fit all!
- **Lead by example**
The best way to grow a child's love of reading is by setting an example where you personally, read regularly and widely, and advertise the fact at every given opportunity.