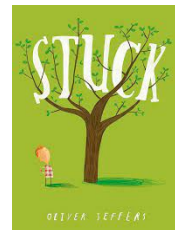
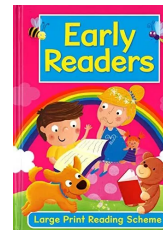
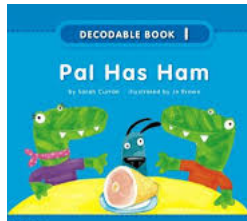


Dear families,

Welcome to Reading in Reception. Reading, of course, is a multi-faceted skill - from the mechanics of phonemes and graphemes to meaning and motivation. In the early years at Beaver Road, we use a balanced approach to the teaching of reading. We follow the Essential Letters and Sounds phonics programme which is designed to build children's decoding capacity, i.e. sounding out words into component parts and blending into full words. Alongside the mechanics of decoding, other word-reading strategies are used : visual clues, pictures, sight-reading (words that cannot be broken into phonic building blocks), and working out a word from the context of others. Comprehension, interpretation, imagining and inferring are skills that run in tandem to the word-reading elements. In this way, children can be discerning and enjoy a holistic reading experience.

Home Reading

In the first half term, we will share three home reading books per week. Books will be changed each Friday and an entry will be made in your reading diary. Books must be brought to school in a Beaver Road book bag.



Your child will receive:

- A decodable book (a book which contains at least 90% of letters/sounds that your child has met before. Decodable words can be sounded out, e.g. c-a-t , r-ai-n.
- A colour-banded book (a book which contains a mixture of decodable and non-decodable words. Non-decodable words cannot be sounded out, e.g. the / they. These types of words need to be memorised as 'sight words'.
- A library book. The children will choose from our selection of books. The text level is not matched to reading level and the idea is that these books are to be enjoyed together as a stimulus to imagination, enjoyment and curiosity.

From half term 2, your child's decodable book will be changed twice per week as the phonics programme develops.

Please record a comment in your reading diary and we will use this space as a way to note down any useful information.

We recommend you reread your books a number of times and use the opportunity to develop fluency and comprehension skills. Reflect on the story plot together, think of some connections, questions to ask a character or ideas for another adventure. Going 'width-ways' with books as a stimulus yields much more than feeling pressure to rush or progress to another book band.

Lots of information to digest here! Please talk to any of our team to clarify or find out more.

Warm wishes, on behalf of Reception Team
Hilary Silva
Reception Lead