



Reading in Reception:

September 2024

Dear families,

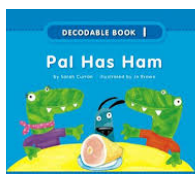
Welcome to Reading in Reception. We are keen to begin the journey of reading with your children immediately at the earliest opportunity as they start with us in Reception. Reading is a skill that takes time to learn with so many different aspects involved. Your children will soon begin to build on their awareness of phonemes and graphemes, comprehension and understanding of what they are reading and what has been read to them.

In Reception 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, this means to sound out each sound in a word and blend those parts together to read the full word. Using our phonic knowledge is a huge part of how we support our children to learn to read, but this is not the sole strategy that we teach children when supporting their development in early reading. The other strategies that we teach include using visual clues, real objects, pictures, harder to read and spell words (sight 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

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.



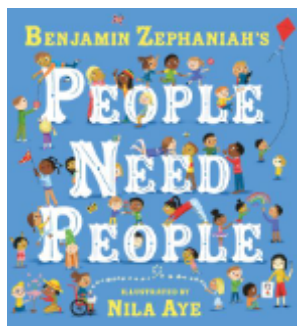
Your child will receive:

- **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.

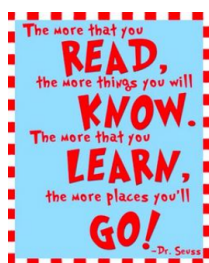
Reading Diary

Your child will have their own reading diary. Please record a comment in your reading diary and we will use this space as a way to note down any useful information. To support your child's reading at home, please find a copy of an ELS phoneme mat and our Beaver Road handwriting script in your child's planner.

A special gift for your child



To enhance the transition experience for Reception children in Manchester, each child will receive their own copy of *People Need People*. The book has been carefully chosen because of its beautiful illustrations and scenes that will be familiar to your child. Please share this book with your child and use it as a tool to chat and discuss the text and describe what you can see. We will also be sharing this book in our classes over the next few weeks. We recommend that you reread each book and take **ten minutes everyday** to read with your child. Rereading the books will help to support your child with their segmenting and blending skills as well as overall confidence building and self-belief in reading.



Being able to read unlocks the world around you and the Reception year is a critical time in your child's development of reading. Supporting your child by showing them that it can be fun and that anything and everything can be read will only encourage and promote a love of reading. In our first Reception newsletter, we will share information about our first Phonics and Reading workshop that we will have in person later this half term. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

Best wishes, on behalf of Reception Team,

Nia Horan

Head of Reception