

24th April 2020

Hi everyone,

We hope you are all well. We wanted to write to bring together different resources which can be used to support staff and pupils with phonics and early reading at the moment. Whilst we know not everyone can access learning on line, hopefully having something which can be shared will be useful. As always, please can you ensure that the resources being shared matched the phonics programme in use in your school.

Letters and Sounds phonics programme

From Monday 27 April, online phonics lessons are available from [Letters and Sounds for home and school](#)

Written and presented by phonics experts and funded by the Department for Education, the online lessons are designed to cover new phonics teaching that children would have received over the summer term had they been in school. This resource is for use by teachers and parents who will find planning and teaching phonics challenging when schools are closed due to Covid-19.

Three sets of lessons will be available. One set for Reception and one for Year 1, based on where children are expected to be in their learning in the summer term. A third set of lessons aims to reach the lowest 20% of children; focussing on areas children find the most challenging. A guidance film for parents to explain the basics of Phonics and how parents can support their child is also available.

A new lesson will be uploaded Monday to Friday at the times below during the summer term.
***After upload, each lesson will then be available to watch throughout the summer term.**

11 am*	Learning to blend Phase 2 recap	For children in Reception and Year 1 who need extra practise sounding and reading words such as 'tap' 'cap' 'mat' 'pat'
10 am*	Reception Summer term Phases 3 & 4	For Reception children who can blend and read words such as 'fish' 'chat' and 'rain'
10:30 am*	Year 1 Summer term Phase 5	For Year 1 children who can confidently blend and read words such as 'stamp' 'chair' and 'green'

If you would like a letter to send to parents to explain this new resource, please see our English Hub website.

Ebooks to support Letters and Sounds

To practise applying their phonic knowledge, it is really useful if young children can use decodable books matched to their knowledge. A couple of publishers have made their ebooks open to everyone during the next few months. The books below match the progression of Letters and Sounds teaching.

Rising Stars

Rising Stars currently have free 90 day access to their full ebook library. You can create a login for each pupil and they can be set books which match their current phonic learning to help them to apply their phonic knowledge to reading.

<https://www.risingstars-uk.com/series/reading-planet/products/rising-stars-reading-planet-online-library>

Oxford Owl

Oxford Owl also have free access to their full ebook catalogue. Pupils / families will need to be directed to titles which they could access at home.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/books/free-ebooks/>

Pearson

We are currently waiting for information from Pearson about how they are supporting schools with ebooks etc during this time.

Read Write Inc phonics programme

7 speed sound lessons including Word Time and spelling, are available for children to watch at home every day for free. Be aware the lessons only last for 24 hours so if you are directing children to watch them, it needs to be done according to the lesson schedule which is available through the site below.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo7fbLgY2oA_cFCIq9GdxtQ

There are videos, workbooks and ebooks following the RWI phonics programme freely available on the following website:

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

Again, you will need to let parents know where their child is in their learning and direct them towards the RWI ebooks which they can use to practise their phonic knowledge. Children following the Read, Write Inc phonics programme should only use the RWI decodable books to practise their phonic knowledge as phonemes are taught in a different order than Letters and Sounds.

Other phonics programmes

Programmes such as Floppy's Phonics and Sounds-Write are currently looking at how they can make their resources available for teachers and pupils to access during this time. Once we have more information, we'll send it out.

Reading for Pleasure

This can be a great time for teachers and children to read more, if working and home circumstances allow.

The link below shares different strategies schools might want to adopt / share with parents about reading for pleasure at home:

<https://www.researchrichpedagogies.org/research/supporting-rah>

There is some great information for teacher CPD on the research rich pedagogies website, looking at ways of incorporating reading for pleasure in school and at home.

<https://www.researchrichpedagogies.org/research/reading-for-pleasure>

The Book Trust's annual Pyjamarama takes place next Friday 1st May. There are some great resources on their website which can be shared with families to help them engage on the day at home. It also means children can stay in their PJs for the day, which is bound to be a plus!

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/pyjamarama/>

We will be continuing to tweet information which we receive from the English Hub network over the coming weeks and months on our hub twitter account @BWEnglishHub. Please do copy us in to anything you post from your school about phonics or reading. It's great to share all of the excellent practice which is continuing to take place across our area at the moment.

If we can be of any help to you or your colleagues, please let us know. Our hub address is englishhub@burleywoodhead.com. If you are one of our support schools from this year or proposed support schools for next year, please also get in touch with your hub Literacy Specialist, who will be happy to continue to support you in any way we can.

Kind regards,

The Burley Woodhead English Hub