

# READING AT HOME - WHAT SHOULD I WRITE IN MY CHILD'S READING RECORD?

Information for parents and carers



YOUR CHILD WILL BRING HOME  
NEW BOOKS EVERY FRIDAY -  
THEY WILL ALSO HAVE A  
YELLOW READING RECORD  
BOOK. THE READING RECORD IS  
A PLACE FOR YOU TO RECORD  
EACH TIME YOUR CHILD HAS  
READ AND WE ASK THAT YOU  
MAKE A SHORT COMMENT.



## HOW MANY BOOKS WILL MY CHILD BRING HOME?

- Your child will bring home 2 books each week:
- 1. **A Decodable book** - this is very closely matched to your child's current reading ability. Children should be secure with the letter-sounds (graphemes) within the book and be able to read the book with a growing fluency (no need to sound out a large number of the words).
- 2. **A Sharing book** - a book to share together with an adult to develop a love of reading. Your child is NOT expected to read the words in this book themselves.

**DECODABLE BOOKS**

This is the book that is matched to Essential Letters and Sounds - the phonics programme we use at St. James' - and to your child's reading ability. You will have this book for a week, and we ask that you read it 4 times during this time.



## WHY DO WE ASK YOUR CHILD TO READ THE DECODABLE BOOK 4 TIMES AT HOME?

- Read 1** - the focus of this read is your child's use of phonics to **decode and blend** the letter sounds to read words.
- Read 2 and 3** - now your child is more familiar with the words and sentences by re-reading them they will begin to **become more fluent and be able to add expression**
- Read 4** - Builds **comprehension and understanding** of the story/text - the more we read a text the better we understand it.





## WHAT DO I WRITE IN MY CHILD'S READING RECORD?

Comment on your child's use of phonics:  
 'Stopped to sound out (insert word)'  
 'They struggled to segment and blend (insert word)'  
 'Was able to identify the .... letter-sound within the book.'  
 'Self-corrected when reading (insert word).'  
 'Read the whole book accurately and confidently'.

## WHAT DO I WRITE IN MY CHILD'S READING RECORD?

Comment on their fluency and expression:  
 'Re-read sentences with growing fluency.'  
 'They gave the characters different voices.'  
 'Spotted the exclamation marks and added expression'.  
 'Struggled to concentrate today'.

## WHAT DO I WRITE IN MY CHILD'S READING RECORD?

Comment on their comprehension of the text:  
 'They were able to talk about how the characters were feeling and why.'  
 'Retold the story in the correct order.'  
 'Able to predict what happened next.'  
 'We had a good discussion about the events in the story.'  
 'They were able to answer questions about what was happening.'

## HOW CAN I BEST SUPPORT MY CHILD AT HOME?

- Spending **10 minutes a day** reading with your child will hugely support them in their journey to becoming an independent reader.
- **Write and comment in your child's reading record every time you read at home.**
- Share and enjoy lots of books together to develop a love of reading.
- Practise letter-sounds sent home in your child's sound folder.

## WHEN WILL BOOKS BE CHANGED?

We will be changing all children's books once a week on a **FRIDAY**.

Please ensure your child hands in their decodable book, reading record and sharing book every **THURSDAY** to help us get the books changed.

Inspiring and Growing for Fullness of Life



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