



# Phonics and Early Reading



## **Phonics**

From January 2022, we have been using the Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) phonics programme.

Children take part in daily phonics sessions where they learn to recognise individual sounds that letters make (or groups of letters) make and then blend them together to read words.



## **Decodable reading books**

Each week your child will bring home a decodable reading book.

Decodable books enable children to practise decoding skills based on their secure phonics knowledge, in context, whilst building comprehension and fluency, ensuring confidence and success for all children.





Your child's reading book will be changed once a week on a **Friday**.

Your child will keep the same reading book for a week.

Each decodable book will have a sticker on the front cover to show that it is a decodable book.

Your child will be expected to read their decodable books four times in a week.

Each time they read they will focus on a different skill:

1. **Decoding** – To apply phonic knowledge to sound out the words when reading.
2. **Fluency**- The ability to read with pace and accuracy.
3. **Expression** - When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately. Their reading is smooth and has expression.
4. **Comprehension** – To understand what has been read.

## Sharing texts

Each week your child will bring home a sharing text. This book is for you both to share together.



This book will need to be read once during the week. This will be the fifth read of the week.

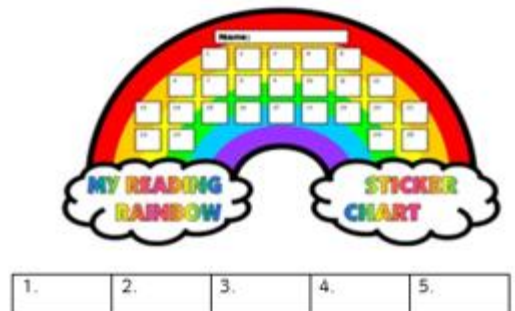
Each sharing text will have a sticker on the front cover to show that it is a sharing text.

## Recording reading



Each time you read with your child you will need to record it in their reading log.

For every signature or comment that is recorded in your child's reading record, your child will receive a tick on the rainbow.



## Keyrings

To promote the love of reading and develop fluency, children in Reception and KS1 have the opportunity to achieve a reading keyring each half-term by reading at home 5 times a week.

