

Reception 2025

Timetable



Morning

- Literacy or mathematics focus
- Phonics

Afternoon

- Art and Design or Understanding the World focus
- Child initiated learning

Seven areas of learning and development in the EYFS

*The **three prime areas** are crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.*



Communication and Language



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Physical Development

*The three prime areas are strengthened and applied through the **four specific areas**.*



Literacy



Mathematics



Understanding the World



Expressive Arts and Design

Communication and Language:

- Learning to listen well, understand what others are saying, and confidently share their own thoughts and feelings.
- In simple terms: talking, listening, and understanding others. This is about your child becoming a good communicator.

I can use clear sentences to talk about my ideas

I can talk about my experiences in detail and give explanations about how things work

I enjoy learning rhymes, poems and songs

I can retell familiar stories and talk about stories in my own words

Physical Development:

- Developing large movements (running, jumping) and small movements (holding a pencil, using scissors), as well as learning about healthy living.
- In simple terms: moving, being active, and staying healthy. This includes both big movements (like dancing) and small movements (like drawing).

I can use a range of movements with ease

I can use a range of tools such as paintbrushes, pencils and scissors

I learn to manage my day at school successfully, e.g. lining up or queueing for my school dinner

I am developing confidence in throwing, passing, kicking and catching balls.

Personal , Social and Emotional Development:

- Learning to understand their own feelings and manage their behaviour, developing self-confidence, and building positive relationships with others.
- In simple terms: How your child feels about themselves and how they get along with others. This is about learning to be confident, manage feelings, and make friends.

I can play fairly and cooperate with my friends

I can keep on going with something even when I find it challenging

I know how to listen to others and be kind and caring

I recognise and talk about how I am feeling; I know ways to keep myself feel calm

4 & 5-year-olds: how you can help me with my learning

Communication & Language

- Play games with me where I have to listen to your instructions such as a treasure hunt.
- Share a wide range of books and stories with me, including non-fiction and poetry.
- Talk out aloud, commenting on your actions and mine. This helps me hear clear, well-formed sentences.
- Encourage me to have lots of back and forth conversations with other children and adults.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Listen carefully to me. Encourage me to express my feelings using words.
- Help me solve problems by talking them through with me. This will help me keep going even when I find it really hard.



Physical Development

- Give me time and space to be highly active and get out of breath every day.
- Encourage me to crawl on all fours, climb, pull myself up on a rope and hang on monkey bars. These activities will help me develop the strength I need for writing.
- Let me use one-handed tools like peelers and knives.

Literacy

- Focus: Developing early reading and writing.
- Reading Skills:
 - Phonics: Learning letter sounds (decoding).
 - Comprehension: Understanding stories and texts.
- Writing Skills:
 - Transcription: Forming letters correctly.
 - Composition: Writing simple sentences to communicate meaning.



Mathematics

- Focus: Building foundations in number and spatial concepts.
- Number:
 - Counting reliably to 20.
 - Simple addition and subtraction (within 10/20).
- Shape, Space, and Measure:
 - Recognizing and naming 2D and 3D shapes.
 - Using language for size, weight, and capacity (e.g., 'heavier', 'empty').



Expressive Arts and Design

- Focus: Exploring different media and expressing ideas creatively.
- Exploration:
 - Safely using materials like paint, clay, and collage.
 - Developing skills with tools like scissors and brushes.
- Imaginative Play:
 - Developing ideas through music, dance, role-play, and storytelling.



Understanding the World

- Focus: Making sense of the physical world and community.
- Key Learning Areas:
 - People and Communities: Learning about different roles, cultures, and traditions.
 - The Natural World: Observing and describing animals, plants, and seasons.
 - Technology: Recognizing and using simple technology (e.g., tablets or cameras).



4 & 5-year-olds: how you can help me with my learning

Mathematics

- [Name small groups of things, this helps me to 'subitise'](#) (instantly seeing how many without counting) e.g. "There are 3 slices of pizza left."
- Ask me to count out a number of things from a group, e.g. "Could you get me 6 eggs?"
- Make number snap or bingo with numerals and pictures. Match the numerals with the right amount.
- Make patterns with objects, e.g. buttons or shells. Such as 'big, small, big...' Make a mistake and talk with me about how to fix it.

Understanding the World

- Share photos and tell stories about my family, both past and present.
- Take me to places of worship and places of local importance in my community.
- Let me help you cook. Talk about changes such as 'melting' or 'boiling'

Literacy

- Keep reading with me everyday. Share books that let me see people of different races, cultures, gender and religion.
- Play games where you give me an instruction like "Can you h-o-p?" I have to put the sounds of the word together.
- Let me make up stories – you could write them down for me and we could act them out.
- Make a photo book of our family or when we went to the park and let me write my own words in it.



Expressive Arts & Design

- Sing and dance with me when we hear our favourite songs. Encourage me to make up my own routine.
- Give me string, scissors, glue, sticky tape and boxes to make a model.

RECEPTION CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

AUTUMN 2



Theme: Explorers



How can I help at home?

- Read and share stories together.
- Practise recognising and writing their name.
- Encourage them to get dressed independently.
- Talk about the seasons and the daily weather.

Communication and Language



- Follow simple instructions.
- Learn new vocabulary through shared class stories.
- With adult support and modelling, begin to express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, correct tenses and conjunctions.
- Begin to answer simple questions appropriately.

Physical Development



- Dance: explore different movements using different parts of the body.
- Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.
- Hold scissors correctly and make snips in paper.
- Begin to hold a pencil in an effective grip.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



- Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly.
- Learn to take steps to resolve conflicts with other children.
- Experience a variety of fruits and vegetables, where do they come from? Why would they grow there?

Literacy

Texts: Lost and Found
On The Way Home
Emperor's Egg



- Recall all single-letter sounds speedily.
- Begin to orally segment and blend sounds to form words such as h-a-t = hat.
- Form letters using the handwriting rhymes.
- Orally recall the main events of a story.
- Write their own name, labels and captions.

Mathematics



- Subitise (instantly recognise a total without counting) numbers up to 5.
- Hear and join in with counting sequences.
- Develop counting skills and knowledge, including: that the last number in the count tells us 'how many'.
- Compare sets of objects by matching.
- Begin to develop the language of 'whole' when talking about objects which have parts.

Understanding the World

- Explore Ernest Shackleton and his expedition to Antarctica.
- Explore the local area that we live in.
- Explore and understand life in a cold place, and compare/contrast it with our own lives.
- Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways (Hanukkah, Christmas).
- Become familiar with the changing of weather and seasons as well as days and months of the year through a daily morning routine.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Create landscape collages inspired by the work of Megan Coyle.
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.
- Create and design their own winter salt dough decorations.
- Recount narratives and stories through experiences such as role play and Talk for Writing.
- Learn and sing a range of nursery rhymes.

What is phonics

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skillfully. They are taught to:

- Recognise the sound that each individual letter makes
- Identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make (/sh/)
- Blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word































e.g. **c - a - t** **cat** **sh - o - p** **shop**



Set 1 sounds

- Children learn to read and write single letter sounds
- Pure sounds
- The Read Write Inc Phonics programme teaches letter sound correspondence through a set of mnemonics (memory aid). Each letter has a mnemonic to help children remember its sound and how to form the letter
- Children learn to blend single sounds to read simple CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words e.g. cat, pot
- **Blending** is the phonics skill of combining individual sounds (phonemes) to read a word

Speed Sounds Set 1






























m 	a 	s 	d 	t 
i 	n 	p 	g 	o 
c 	k 	u 	b 	f 
e 	l 	h 	sh 	r 
j 	v 	y 	w 	th 
z 	ch 	qu 	x 	ng 

Set 1 sounds

- Pure sounds

First we teach the 'pure sounds' of individual letters. Children will learn to read Set 1 Speed Sounds: these are sounds written with one letter: m a s d t i n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v y w z x and sounds written with two letters (your child will call these 'special friends'): sh th ch qu ng nk ck.

Speed Sounds Set 1

m 	a 	s 	d 	t 
i 	n 	p 	g 	o 
c 	k 	u 	b 	f 
e 	l 	h 	sh 	r 
j 	v 	y 	w 	th 
z 	ch 	qu 	x 	ng nk

Set 1 sounds

- Handwriting phrases

m Maisie, mountain, mountain



a round the apple, down the leaf



s slither down the snake



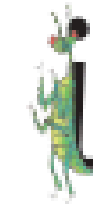
d round the dinosaur's bottom, up its tall neck and down to the feet



t down the tower, across the tower



i down the body, dot for the head

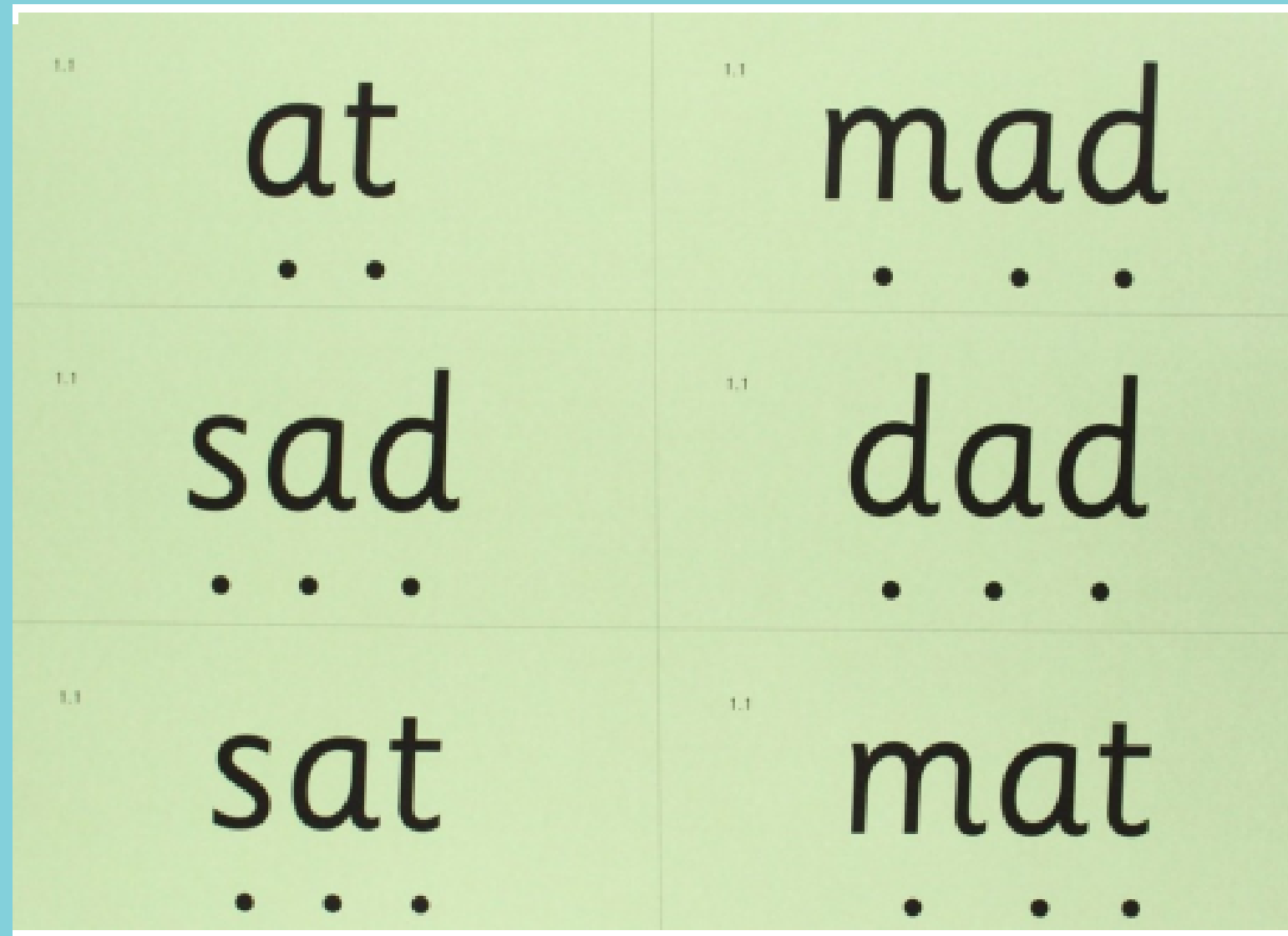


n down Nobby, over his net



p down the plait and over the pirate's face





Blending Sounds

We teach children to orally blend using Fred the frog. Fred can only speak in sounds. He says d-o-g, h-a-t etc.

Speaking like Fred helps children to understand that words are made up of sounds. Fred helps children practise blending sounds together because he needs the children to say the words for him. Fred says d-o-g, children tell him the word is dog.



Ditty 1: pop

Speed Sounds - read the sounds (not the letter name)

a g t p n s d o i

Green Words - read these words by blending the sounds together

not got sip pop dad did dog

Red Words - read these words but tell your child the word if they get stuck

I the

I got pop

dad got a sip

the dog did not



I
you
said

When children can confidently read simple CVC words, they are ready to read their first story! We start off with reading a Ditty. We always practise reading the Speeds Sounds, Green Words and Red Words before reading the Ditty. Red Words are words that children cannot decode phonetically meaning children don't have the sound knowledge to Fred talk them. Children learn to read these words by sight reading.

Resource pack

Read Write Inc. Phonics Desktop Speed Sounds Chart

Speed Sounds Set 1

m m	a a	s s	d d	t t
i i	n n	p p	g g	o o
c c	k k	u u	b b	f f
e e	l l	h h	sh sh	r r
j j	v v	y y	w w	th th
z z	ch ch	qu qu	x x	ng nk

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at	I
sad	you
sat	said

- m** Maisie, mountain, mountain
- a** round the apple, down the leaf
- s** slither down the snake
- d** round the dinosaur's bottom, up its tall neck and down to the feet
- t** down the tower, across the tower
- i** down the body, dot for the head
- n** down Nobby, over his net
- p** down the plait and over the pirate's face



4 & 5-year-olds: how you can help me with my learning

Communication & Language

- Play games with me where I have to listen to your instructions such as a treasure hunt.
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Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Listen carefully to me. Encourage me to express my feelings using words.
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Physical Development

- Give me time and space to be highly active and get out of breath every day.
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- Let me use one-handed tools like peelers and knives.



Weekly handwriting tasks, green and red words

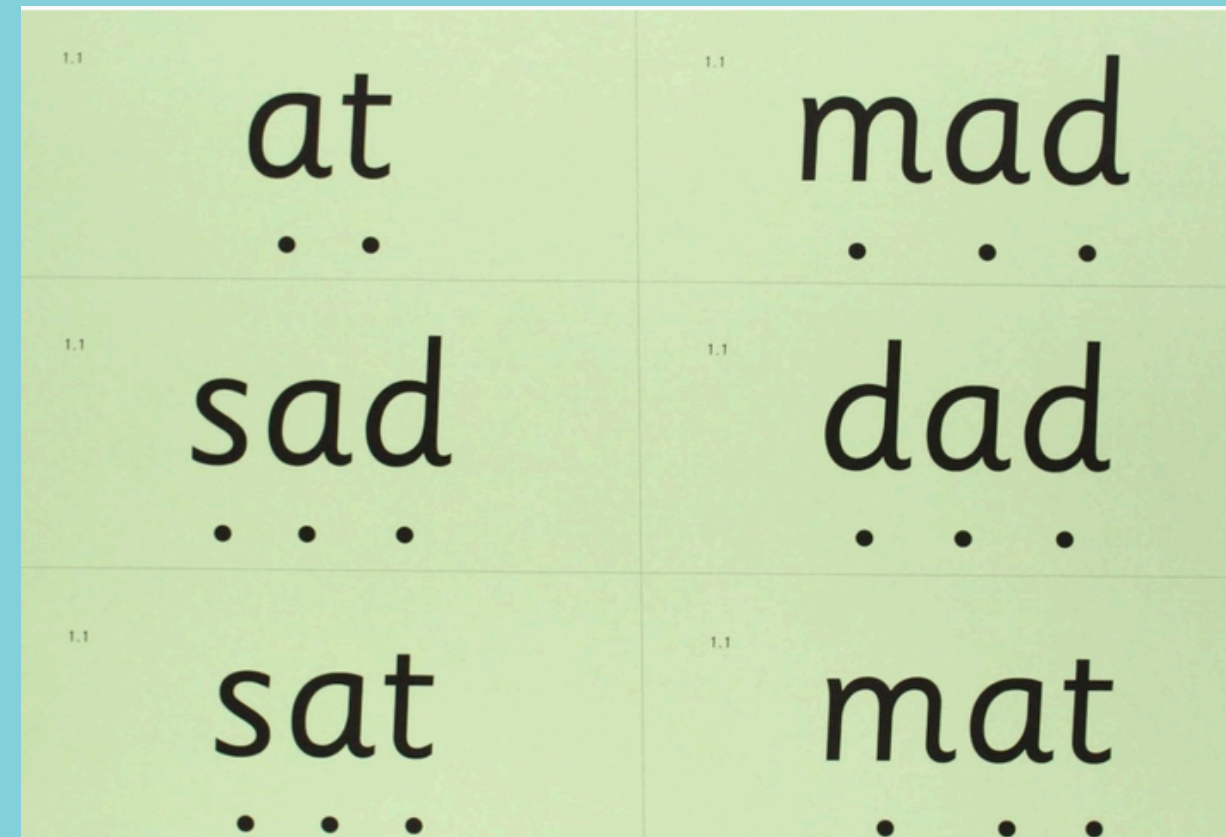


Handwriting practice sheet for the letter 'm'. It features a large 'm' with a mouse illustration, followed by two more 'm's. Below are four small illustrations: a mouse, a mountain, a tombstone, and a moon. The sheet includes a 'Practise handwriting' section with five 'm's and a 'Practise sound-writing' section with one 'm'.

Practise handwriting
Maisie, mountain, mountain

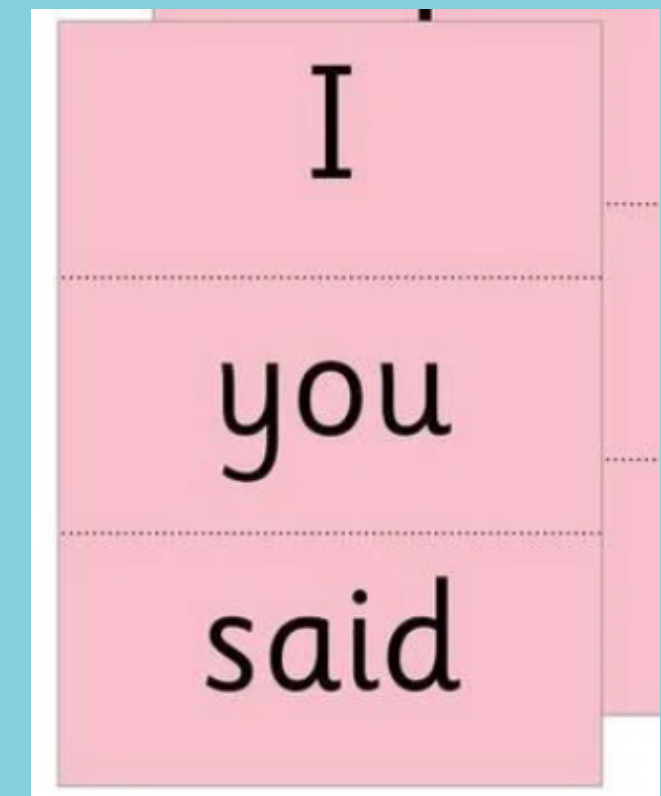
m m m m m

Practise sound-writing
m



Green words handwriting practice sheet. It contains six words arranged in a 3x2 grid, each with a starting dot and a directional arrow for the first stroke.

at	mad
sad	dad
sat	mat



Red words handwriting practice sheet. It contains three words arranged vertically, each with a starting dot and a directional arrow for the first stroke.

I
you
said

Useful links



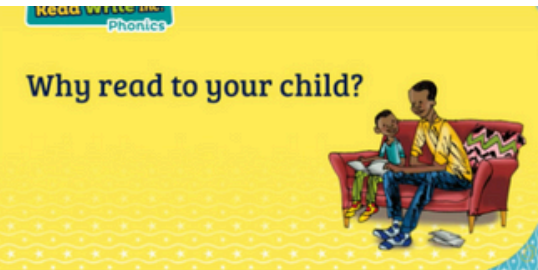
Oxford Owl for Home

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk> > reading > read-write-in... ⋮

Parent guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics

We have lots of free **Read Write Inc. Phonics** resources to help your child, including eBooks, practice sheets and **parent films**.

Read Write Inc. Phonics: a guide for parents



Why read to your child?
Find out why it's important to read to your child.



10 things to think about when you read to your child
Tips to make the most of reading to your child.



Understanding Phonics
Find out what phonics is and how it's used.



What is Read Write Inc. Phonics?
Find out how Read Write Inc. Phonics helps your child.



How to say the sounds
Learn how to pronounce the Read Write Inc. sounds.



What is Sound-blending?
Ruth Miskin's way of teaching children to blend sounds.