



Reading at Russell  
Street School

- Our teaching focuses on the two dimensions to reading – ‘word recognition’ and ‘language comprehension’.
- Please remember learning to read is a journey and not a race!





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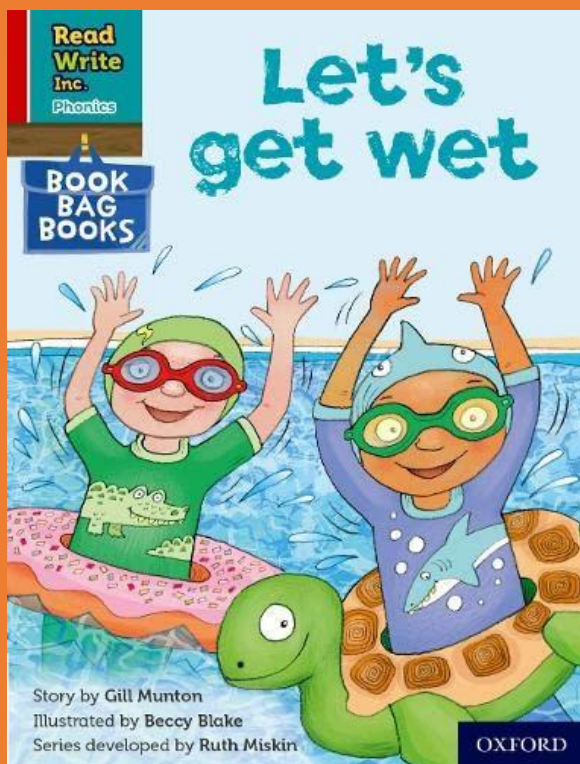
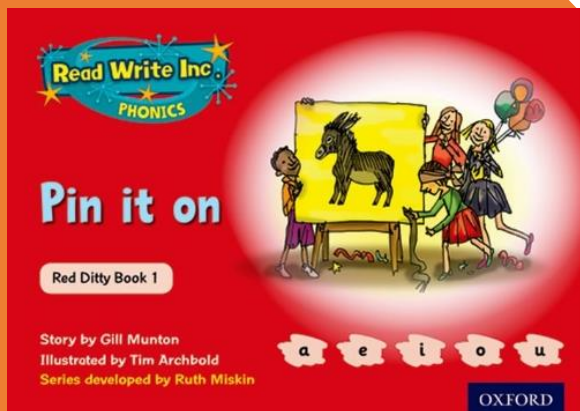
Learning to read is the most important thing your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it.

We want your child to love reading – and to want to read for themselves. We put our efforts into making sure they develop a love of books as well as simply learning to read.



# How will my child be taught to read?

1. We start by teaching phonics so children can decode words.
2. The children practise reading the **books that match their phonics level and the 'tricky words'/red words they know.**
3. We read to the children all the time. It's important they get to know all sorts of stories, poetry and information books. They learn many more words this way and it also helps their writing.



- Your child will bring 2 books home from school:
  1. A Phonics reading book
  2. A book-bag book
- Please trust your child's teacher to choose the book(s) that will help your child the most. Help your child to sound out the letters in words and then to 'push' the sounds together to make a whole word. Try not to refer to the letters by their names. Help your child to focus on the sounds.

# Further support as a parent/carer?

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- Do not encourage your child to speed up when they are trying to read (no matter how slow).
- Please do not compare your child's progress in reading to that of their peers or siblings. This has a negative impact on their progress and confidence.
- Read every day! **(Your child to you and you to your child).**
- Ask questions about what they have read. For example:
- Who was the main character in the story?
- What did you like/dislike about the story?
- What was the setting?
- Can you find the contents/index page in this non-fiction book?
- Read, read read...stories, non-fiction, poetry, comics. Road signs etc.
- Visit the library.

## National Literacy Trust:

There can be few things as powerful as regularly reading to a your child. It has astonishing benefits for children: comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun. Giving a child time and full attention when reading them a story tells them they matter. It builds self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns.

\*  
Reading sheds.

# THE MILLION WORD GAP

New research shows the different numbers of words kids will have heard by age 5 based on how often parents read to them:

**Never** read to: 4,662 words

**1-2** times per week: 63,570 words

**3-5** times per week: 169,520 words

**Daily:** 296,660 words

**Five books** a day: 1,483,300 words





**The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.**

**The more that you learn,  
the more places you'll go.**

**-Dr. Seuss**

All information is on our website:

- [Welcome to Russell Street School \(russell-street-school.co.uk\)](http://russell-street-school.co.uk)