

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Reading Book Levels – Frequently Asked Questions

When does my child get a reading book?

At the beginning of Reception, children begin learning to read through daily phonics lessons (see phonics information sheet for further information). Once a child is able to recognise some of the letters from red level and say the accompanying sound, they will be given a set of flashcards to practise at home.

As soon as a child knows the sound represented by each of the letters in red level and is able to read simple words using red level sounds, they will be given a reading book to take home and read.

How does my child move up through the colour levels?

School staff aim to read with each child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 each week. When they listen to children read they consider three things:

- 1) Word reading – Is the child able to read words containing the sounds from their colour level.
- 2) Fluency – Can the child read the book independently with an appropriate level of fluency for their age and stage of development?
- 3) Comprehension – Does the child understand what they are reading? Can they talk about and discuss the content of the text?

As soon as school staff feel that all three criteria are met: word reading, fluency, and comprehension, they will move a child up to the next level. This will be communicated with you in their reading diary.

What does 'Accelerated Reader' Mean?

Books in the first 7 reading book levels (red to violet) are broadly based on the phonic sounds in the books. For example: a book with the word 'chip' will be at yellow levels as the sound ch appears within yellow level. Once a child has reached silver and gold level they should know all of the phonic sounds taught at school. The purpose of silver and gold level is to build a child's understanding and fluency. This allows for a smoother transition between our phonic based reading books and Accelerated Reading books.

Once a child progresses from gold level, they move to Accelerated Reader (AR) books. When a child has finished reading their AR reading book they can log into Accelerated Reader with their own AR login details and complete a reading quiz. The reading quiz assess children's understanding of their reading book. This allows school staff to monitor progress and

Phonics Based Reading Books - Progression
<b>Red</b> s a t p i n m d
<b>Orange</b> g o c k e u r h b f l ck ff ll ss
<b>Yellow</b> j v w x y z zz ch sh th ng qu
<b>Green</b> ai ee igh oa oo oo or ar oor ow ow
<b>Blue</b> Words with adjacent consonants, two or more digraphs, polysyllabic words and compound words
<b>Indigo</b> ur er ir ay ou oy oi ea air ure ear aw ew
<b>Violet</b> ph wh au ue a-e e-e i-e o-e u-e
<b>Silver</b> Building fluency, expression and comprehension
<b>Gold</b> Building fluency, expression and comprehension
Accelerated Reader Reading Book Levels
A – 1.8-1.9
B – 2.0-2.1
C – 2.2-2.3
D – 2.4-2.5
E – 2.6-2.7
F – 2.8-2.9

We aim for children to score at least 80% on their quizzes. If a child is scoring less than 80% we will offer additional support to allow children to continue to make good progress.

Each half term children complete a reading test on Accelerated Reader. This gives school staff additional data to identify children who are making good progress and which children need additional support.

#### What happens when my child is ready to move on from level F?

The AR reading levels continue throughout the school. We have grouped and assigned the reading levels to make it easier for our younger children to find their reading book. Once a child reaches the end of level F children are able to understand the reading books levels with greater independence. We will give children an AR reading level or reading range for example we might say they can read reading books between 3.0 and 3.3 or 4.2 and 4.3.

#### How often should my child read their reading books?

Children should read as often as possible at home. We set the target of reading five times a week at home. We find that children who read regularly at home make the best progress. In school, we aim to read with each child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 each week. We read with some children more often than once a week.

#### When will my child change their reading book?

Children are given a chance to change their reading book every day. We do ask for children to read their reading book on two different occasions before changing their book. This supports children to build their reading fluency and understanding. When children start to read longer 'chapter' books we say they only need to read their book once. This usually happens around level 3.