

Listening to your child read

Congratulations! Your child has started to bring home their Ditty reading sheets to share with you!
The information here will help you to support your child in making steady progress with their reading.

In our school, children read each Read Write Inc. Ditty at least three times in class with their partner.
Re-reading the same book helps children to become confident readers. Each time they re-read, they build their fluency/speed and comprehension.
They love reading and want to read because they can read all of the words on the Ditty sheet.

We do not send stories home the children cannot read because we always want them to be set up to succeed in their reading. We want to make sure they enjoy reading so that they want to read.
The more they read, the faster progress they will make.

So after the third read in class, children bring the same Ditty sheet home in their book bag.
They love this because they feel confident about reading it and can't wait to read it to you, their grandparents or even their teddy bear!

Please avoid saying, "This is too easy for you!" but instead say "I love how well you can read this!"
They are meant to be able to read all of the words as the book is at the correct level.

Encourage them to share their enjoyment of the story with you and read it in their storyteller voice – again and again. If they hesitate over a word, remind them to read the word using 'Special Friends, Fred Talk, read the word'. For example, this means they spot the 'sh', then Fred Talk and blend to read the word e.g. sh, sh-i-p, ship.

Some words are 'tricky' because they contain letters that don't match the sounds the child has been taught. For example, 'said' has 'ai' making an 'e' sound. We teach these common exception words as Red words. Remind your child not to use Fred Talk to read Red words but instead to stop and think. Tell them the word if needed.

In your child's book bag, they will bring home:

- the Ditty they have read in class to practise reading what they can already read.
- a picture book to share with you. You can read the story to them or they can retell the story by looking at the pictures. They are not expected to read the story themselves.

So, to recap, what can you do to help at home?

- 1. Listen to your child read the same *Read Write Inc. Storybook* again and again.**
- 2. Encourage them to use 'Special Friends', 'Fred Talk', 'read the word'.**
- 3. Discuss the story and encourage their storyteller voice.**
- 4. Record their reading in their Reading Diary.**

For more information, there are free video tutorials on the website – www.ruthmiskin.com click 'parents'.
You can of course also ask your teacher or Mrs Cliff!