



## Listening to your child read

Your child is on Red Ditty books.

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. book 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 in the book.

We do not send stories home that 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.

Children bring home the Book Bag book that matches their phonics level 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 book is too easy for you!" but instead say "I love how well you can read this book!" 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. In the Red books, these words are printed in red text. 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:

- a Book Bag Book especially for home reading. They have guidance inside just for you as parents.
- They are matched to the books children read in school so provide practice of the same sounds - extra practice at the right level for your child. They include many of the same reading activities that we use in class.
- A reading record book for you to date, sign and write a comment following each read.

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

1. Listen to your child read the same *Read Write Inc. Book Bag* book at least 3 times.
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, by dating and commenting in the Reading Record

For more information, please ask your child's teacher. Also there are free video tutorials on the website - [www.ruthmiskin.com](http://www.ruthmiskin.com)