

How do children learn to read at Ulcombe?

At Ulcombe all children start their journey the same way. First we check if they can hear it and can they say it? We use a programme called Speech Link. The children play a computer game where we listen to them speak and see if there are any areas they need help with. If they do need a little extra help we will let you know and talk to you about how we are helping them.



Next we check if they understand what we are saying and what words mean. This is another programme called language Link and it is another activity on the computer that feels like a game to them. We will let you know if they need any further help.

In class in the first term we are busy playing games. These help children to listen carefully, notice rhymes and sounds as they hear them and say them. This is the initial building blocks to learning to read.

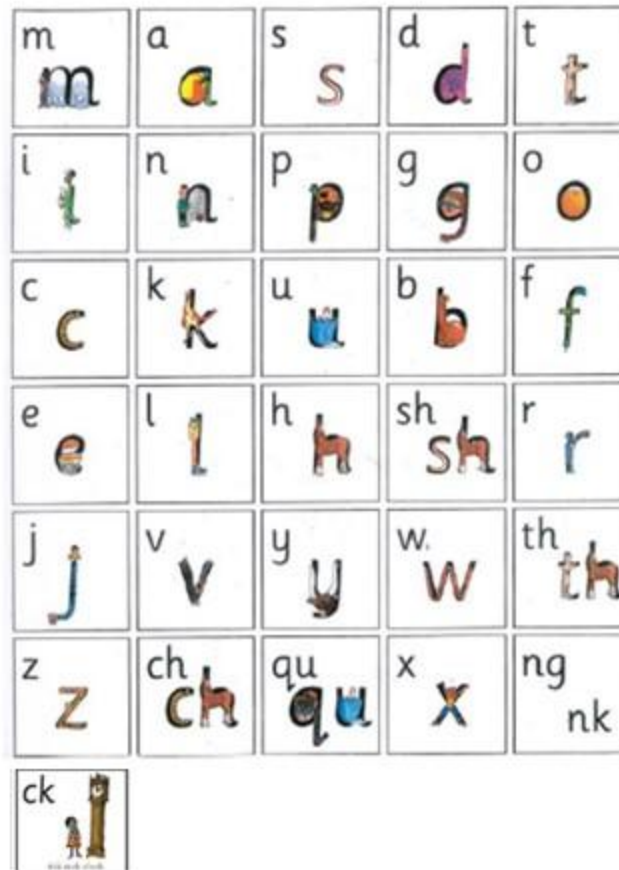
You can help at home by learning Nursery Rhymes.

Next we learn the sounds the letters make. These are called phonemes. We learn them in this order as this is the quickest way to get them to start reading and making short words and understanding the purpose of phonemes.

You can help at home by saying the phonemes clearly with your child.

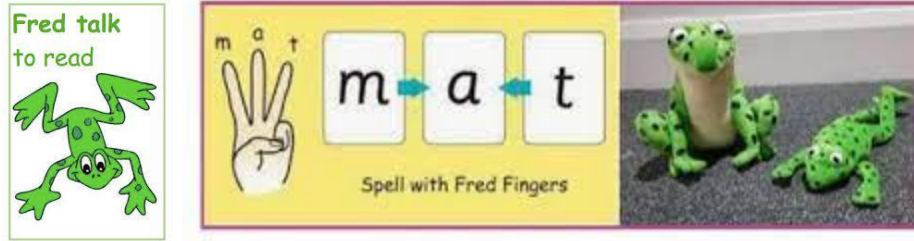
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

Set 1 Sounds



Each sound has a picture to help the children remember it and a phrase to help them to say, while they write it.

Once the children have learnt the first 6 sounds we start blending them together to read them and also segment words that we are saying to help us write them.



Some words we can't use phonics for, these are called red words. So we just have to learn these and keep practising them.

Red Words	Red Words	Red Words
the	of	want
to	all	some
I	are	come
go	her	where
so	was	there
no	they	when

The children are always welcome to take a book home from school to enjoy at home with an adult. When the children have become successful in blending Mrs Martin will begin guiding them to books that they can read by themselves.



Owlets class also go to the Library van every two weeks to select stories they could like in the classroom.



Mrs Masters also rewards children for great reading by giving them a token for the book vending machine. Sometimes the book has an extra prize inside.



Each day the children have a phonics, reading and English lesson in Owelts giving them ample opportunities to learn further and practise skills.