

Guide to first reading books in Reception

This week, children will bring home two books in their book bags. A individual reading book from our new scheme and a 'real' storybook.

The storybook is sent home to be read by an adult, as part of shared reading time so please do not panic we are not expecting your child to be able to read it on their own!

The first individual reading book that children will bring home in Foundation Stage is a lilac wordless book.

It can be difficult to understand the value of these books, and what to do with them so we thought we would send you a little guide!

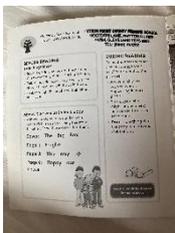
Why wordless books?

Wordless books are designed to get children ready for reading. It helps them learn how to handle books carefully and how a book works: front to back, left to right, top to bottom. Sharing these books with adults helps to develop their language skills, comprehension and their ability to interpret visual images. Following the story helps children understand the structure of storytelling and can develop their knowledge of cause and effect, conflict and resolution, character development and the structure of narrative (beginning, middle and end).

As well as this, a wordless book helps to build a child's confidence and enjoyment of reading. They will be able to pick up a book and understand the story from beginning to end without the need of an adult to read it to them. We hope that this first step in reading will inspire a lifelong love of books and storytelling!

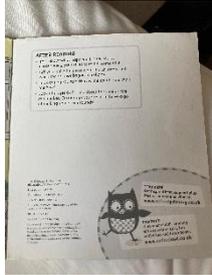
What to do with a wordless book?

All of our new lilac books have a handy guide at the front and back (this may look slightly different in different style books).



On your first reading of the book, please refer to this page. It will give you a guide to the book and how you can use it. There is usually a section linked to vocabulary and there is also a section to guide you on what to discuss before reading and whilst reading. Please make sure you do these activities with your child as they are key to making the reading of this type of book successful.

The next step is sharing the story. Children may find this difficult at first and may need you to model how to tell the story in sentences. The first time you read you may just want to discuss what is on each page. Remember we do not expect you to do all of the aspects of the reading process all on one day!



Finally, the back cover will give you some ideas of activities you might like to do with your child after reading. There is no obligation from us for you to do these activities but if you do, it would be lovely for you to share this with us via email, Class Dojo or a paper version in their bookbag.

Please remember we do not expect you to complete all of these stages on one day or on each day. Your child will have each reading book for a full week in order that they can enjoy the book and cover all aspects within the week.

Once we are confident as staff that your child is ready for the next stage book and once they have been taught the sounds in the next set of books they will be then given a Pink A book. The handy guide in the front and back is also present in this book (and in all subsequent books that they will bring home this year)

More information regarding later reading books and our teaching of early reading will be shared with you via our home learning page.

If you have any further questions or need any clarification regarding reading books, please do not hesitate to ask!

Miss Martin and the Reception Team