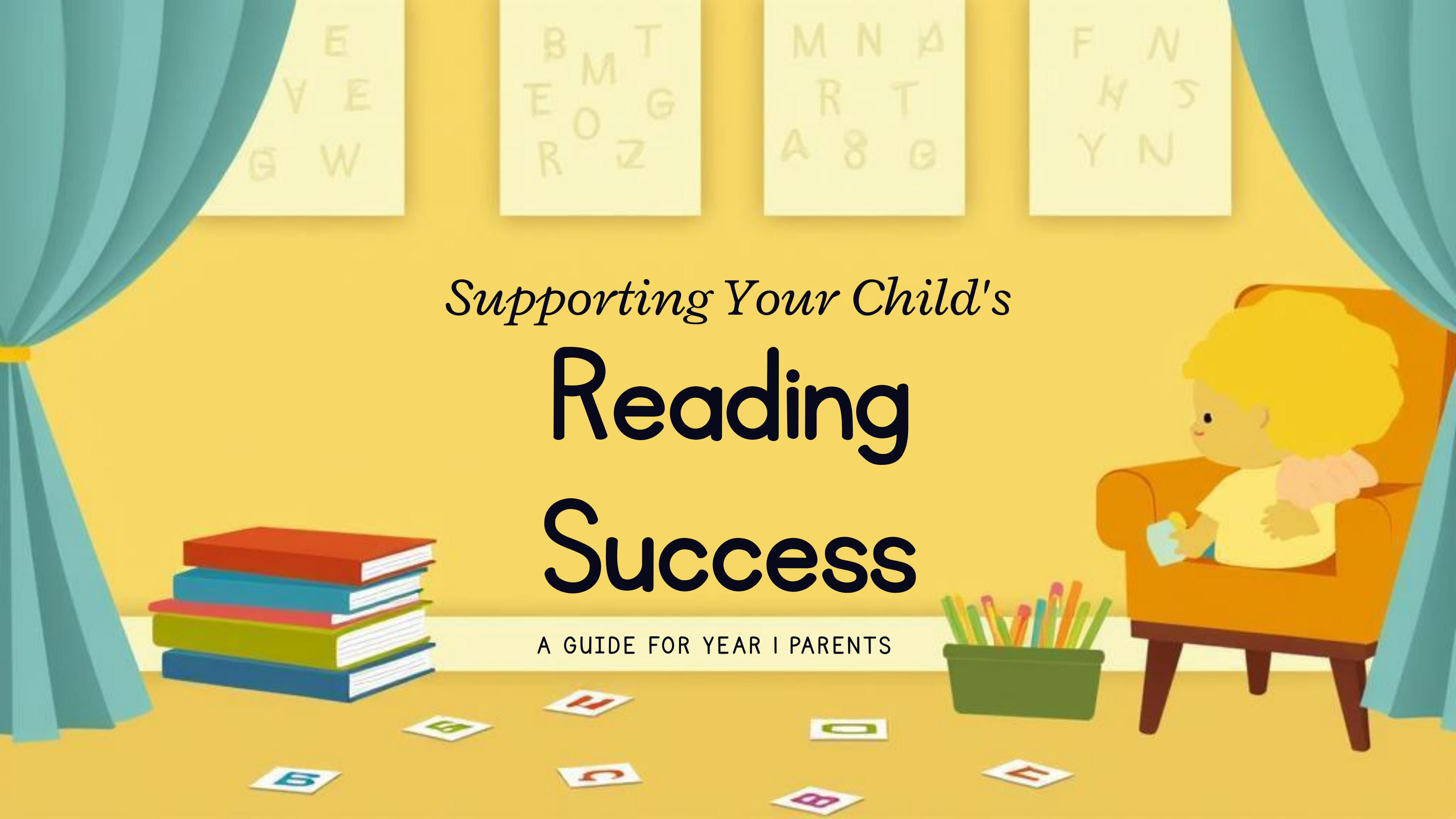




Supporting Your Child's

Reading Success

A GUIDE FOR YEAR 1 PARENTS

Year 1 Reading and Phonics

Welcome, everyone! Today, we will demonstrate a Year 1 phonics lesson and provide you with some valuable tips to help support your child's learning at home.

Let's start by showing you a mini lesson!

1. Sound Song
2. Review
3. Teach a new sound (Gotcha and reading words)
4. Teaching a tricky word to read and spell



Phase 3 Song

Why Phonics Matters

Phonics is the foundation of learning to read and write.

By learning the sounds that letters and letter groups make, children can:

- Read new words independently
- Become more fluent readers
- Spell words more accurately
- Develop confidence as readers and writers



Terminology

Understanding

Phonemes

Phonemes are a letter or group of letters which make a sound ai, ee, igh, oa

Grapheme

Written representations of sounds.

Graphemes link letters to their corresponding phonemes effectively.

Digraph

Digraphs are two letters that create one sound, like
ch, sh, th

Trigraphs

Trigraphs are three letters that make one sound igh,
ear, air

Split

Digraph

Split Digraphs are two letters that are split by a consonant e.g:

a-e cake,

e-e Pete,

o-e phone,

u-e huge

Terminology

Blending Sounds

Blending is when children put sounds together to read a word.

Think of it like building a word from its parts.

Example:

If a child hears the sounds /c/ /a/ /t/, they blend them together to say “cat.”

Segmenting Words

Segmenting is when children break a word apart into its individual sounds.

This helps with spelling and understanding how words are made.

Example:

If a child hears the word “dog,” they can segment it into /d/ /o/ /g/.

Tricky Words

Tricky words are words that can’t be sounded out using phonics.

Children need to learn them by sight because they don’t follow regular spelling rules.

Why Reading at Home Matters

“Reading for pleasure is one of the single biggest predictors of a child’s future academic success across all subjects”

Children who read regularly at home make faster progress in reading, writing and vocabulary development.

Reading together helps children to:

- Build fluency and confidence
- Practise their phonics skills
- Develop language and vocabulary
 - Improve comprehension
 - Foster a love of reading



Just 10 minutes, 3 times a week, can make a big difference!

What type of books do your children take home?

Your child's reading book is carefully matched to their current phonics knowledge and reading ability.

This means children can:

- Apply the sounds they have been taught in school
 - Practise blending with increasing confidence
 - Read with growing fluency and accuracy
- Develop their understanding of what they are reading

Children should be able to read most of the words independently, but there may still be some words and sounds that require support.

The aim is for children to feel challenged, successful and confident as they develop as readers.



Tips for Reading at home- we want your child to enjoy reading at home!



Little and often is best

Short, regular reading sessions are most effective.

Just 10 minutes a day is perfect—please don't expect your child to read the whole book.

Quality is more important than quantity!



Take turns reading

Share the reading by taking turns with pages or sentences. This helps keep the flow and reduces pressure.



Jump in when needed

If your child is stuck on a word, it's okay to jump in and sound it out together. This builds confidence and keeps the experience positive.

Tips for Reading at home

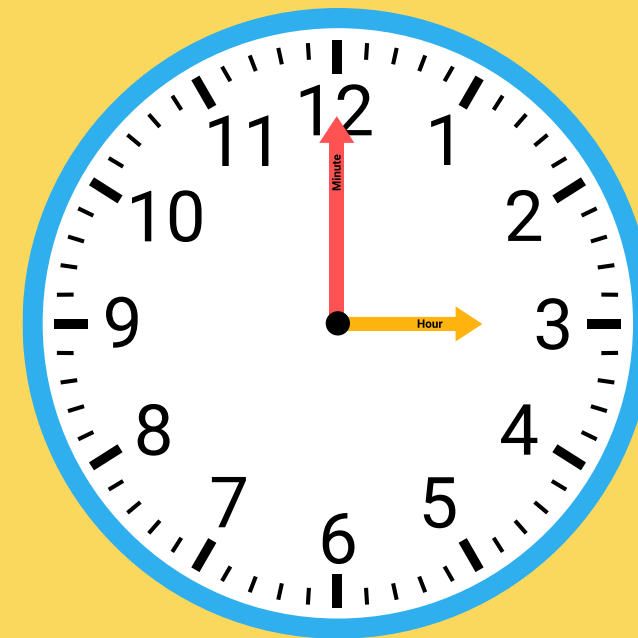
Grapheme Mat

Phase 2 and 3

s	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h	b	f	l	j	v
s	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h	b	f	l	j	v
ss	tt	pp	nn	mm	dd	gg	ck	rr	h	b	ff	ll	j	vv
W	X	U	Z	qu	ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u
w	x	y	z	qu	ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u
ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	oo	ar	or	ur	er	ow	oi	ear	air	k
ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	oo	ar	or	ur	er	ow	oi	ear	air	k

Use the Grapheme Mat

If your child is struggling to recognise a sound, use the grapheme mat! We will send one home with each child after today.



Pick the right time of day

Choose a time of day when your child is most alert. Many children prefer to be read to at bedtime rather than read themselves, as they're often tired.



Celebrate Effort

Keep it positive! Praise your child for trying, not just for getting it right. Effort and persistence are just as important as success.

Tips for Reading at home



What to do if your child gets it wrong

When your child gets stuck:
Encourage them to look at the graphemes.

Say the sounds.

Blend the sounds together.

Re-read the sentence.

Tell them the word if needed and move on.



Re-reading is ok!

Sometimes children like to reread the same books several times and that can be very boring for you! But children gain confidence by reading familiar books more than once, and it is still good practice for them.



Pretend you need help!

When it is your turn to read a page, tell your child if you stop on a word it may mean you need their help. This could be a word you know they can phonetically sound out or a tricky word they are learning to read.

Reminders:

Minion's Reading Challenge

In Year 1, we have a Minion's Reading Challenge.

I read = 10 minutes

What counts as a read?

A read could include:

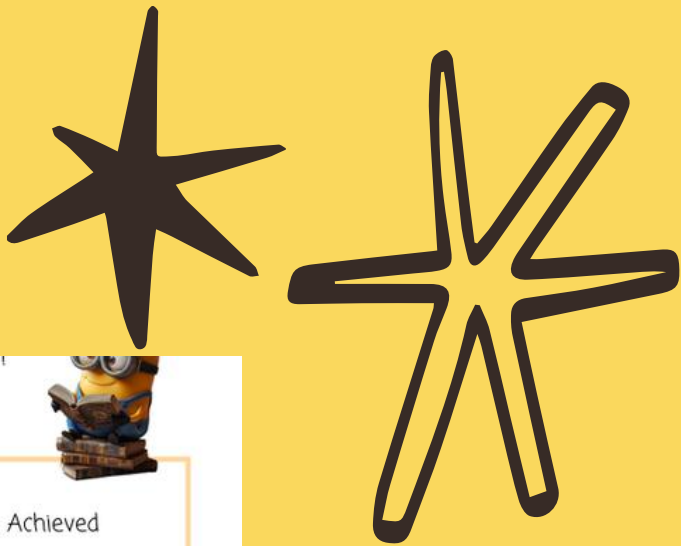
- Playing a phonics game
- Your child reading for 10 minutes
- Reading signs, labels or other print in the environment
- Completing one of the spelling challenges in your child's spelling book

In your child's spelling book, you will find an insert to record each stage of the challenge.

Please date each achievement so that we can celebrate your child's progress together and award them their prize!

happy reading and thank you for your support!

Number of reads	Prizes	Date Achieved
20	Minion Sticker 	
50	A cute cartoon rubber 	
100	A bendy pencil 	
150	A Scratch Art Bookmark 	
200	Choose your own book!	



Reminders:

Spelling books are sent home weekly and should be returned every Thursday.

Reading books, matched to your child's phonics level, should be returned on Friday so your child can choose new books for the following week.

