



Reading Rainbow Sight Words

Dear Parents,

At our recent Welcome Meeting which many of you attended, we explained we would be sending home some of the first 100 words that your child should learn to *read* confidently by sight during their Reception year (Our 'Rainbow' words). Please note we do not expect children to spell the words at this point and do not send home spellings for Reception as we want them to be confident and 'brave writers'. Spellings begin going home in Year 1.

These words are the most commonly used in the English language and are grouped in Phase order. Please work through the words by colour group, as they are linked closely to the sounds and tricky words your child is being taught in Phonics (ie, focus on your child learning to sight read the red words first before gradually adding words from the orange set).

We would appreciate your help in practising the words with your child at home to encourage their confident sight recognition of each of them. Please work through a few of the red words first, adding more as your child becomes familiar with them. Move on to the next (orange) set, once they know the red words securely.

Words that are written in bold italics are 'tricky', or 'irregular' words, i.e. they cannot be decoded using phonics. While these can only be learned as whole words, in the early stages of reading your child might initially want to try to decode them using their phonics. This is fine. Over time, however, they should develop 'instant' recognition of all the words as they become more confident readers.

Overleaf is a complete list of all the first 100 words in colour order. Please remember that all children are unique and learn the complex skill of reading at different rates. Some may rapidly learn the words while others will take longer to recognise them. It is vital to acknowledge this and work with your child at their pace. This is not a race to the finish, but the acquisition of deep and life-lasting learning.

Once they know all their first 100 words, children will begin to learn the next 200 common words (usually in Year 1, but sooner if a child is ready).

If you have any questions about the scheme, please don't hesitate to ask me.

Best wishes

Mrs Moore and Mrs Mander

Red level

a	an	as	at	in
on	is	it	I	the

Orange level

not	got	dad	can	and
get	big	him	his	to
mum	up	had	no	go

Yellow level

of	off	but	if	back
into	will	that	this	them
then	he	she	we	me

Green level

with	see	for	now	down
be	look	too	was	you
all	are	my	her	they

Blue level

said	went	it's	from	children
so	do	some	little	one
just	help	like	have	come

Indigo level

about	were	there	day	made
when	out	what	don't	old
I'm	by	time	house	your

Violet level

could	called	asked	came	make
here	saw	very	put	oh
their	people	Mr	Mrs	looked

Red Level (please introduce this set first)

a

an

as

at

in

on

is

it

I

the

Orange Level

not

got

dad

can

and

get

big

him

his

to

mum

up

had

no

go

