Twinkl Phonics and Rhino Readers

At Heltwate we work hard to support children with reading at their individual level. Throughout school we use a range of reading resources including: our interactive library, sensory stories, curriculum based stories and songs. We use outside provision and external agencies (The music man and Jo Jingles) to support songs and rhymes. Our main approach to reading is through the teaching of Phonics and we have recently updated our scheme to 'Twinkl Phonics'.

All pupils are assessed in Phonics to ensure teaching is at the correct level for the child. Levels go from 1-6 and Twinkl has a range of resources to support all levels of interest and abilities. Meet the Twinkl Phonics family including Kit (the boy), Sam (the girl) and Ben (the



Phonics Vocabulary:

Phoneme- the smallest unit of sound in words e.g. /s/, /a/

Grapheme - how a sound is written

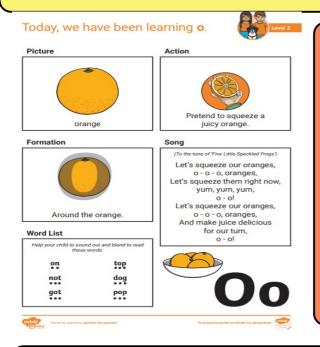
Blending: joining individual speech sounds together to read a word

Segmenting: breaking down words into individual speech sounds to spell a word

Tricky words: words that cannot be broken down to read (not decodable)

Children will be introduced to new sounds at a pace that suits them. They will learn the sound and how it looks and the related pictorial mnemonic to help them to remember it. Children will learn an action to support the sound, as well as learning how to form the letter correctly. Songs and activities from Twinkl are available. Children will learn to use the sound to blend (read) and segment (spell) words with it in.

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Homework sheets support you at home to develop your child's understanding of new sounds. The sheets guide you through the formation, and show you how to support your child to read the sound in real words. Be flexible with these sheets perhaps read through it together, have a practise of spelling and writing the words, sing the song together or even ask your child to teach you the sound using the sheet.

When pupils are able to use a number of sounds correctly they will be assigned a reading book from Rhino Readers (Linked to Twinkl Phonics). They will use a real book in school to read on a 1:1 and will be sent home a 'Twinkl Go' link to enable them to access the book online at home for free. Please use this link to hear your child read at home each week.



Phonics is our main way of teaching your child to read but reading can be so much more. We really want to support all of our children to become independent in functional reading at an appropriate level to them. Here are some ideas...

