



## HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Learning and Achieving Together*

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Thursday 11th September 2025

### Home reading books in Year 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, reading is a core part of our curriculum. To support your child's reading, your child will bring home a 'sharing' reading book to read, enjoy and share with their family, **Friday 12th September**.

They will also be bringing home a reading diary. Log in details for various online learning platforms for them to complete their homework, will be stuck in the back cover of the reading diary by the end of next week and a further letter regarding homework will follow. The reading diary is intended as a convenient place for you and your child to refer to the login details.

### Read Write Inc. 'Book Bag' books

The 'sharing' reading book will be sent home in addition to another book which is a **Read Write Inc. 'Book Bag' book**. These are designated as your child's main home reading book that they can read aloud to an adult at home, and their purpose is to support their word-reading skills develop. The Book Bag book they bring home will match the sounds and words they are currently learning to read in their Read Write Inc. phonics lessons in school.

As the children will be learning the sounds in school, they should be able to decode and confidently read all the words in the Book Bag books they are bringing home each week.

The children will be starting their phonics lessons in school next week and the RWI Book Bag book will start to be sent home later in the Autumn term.



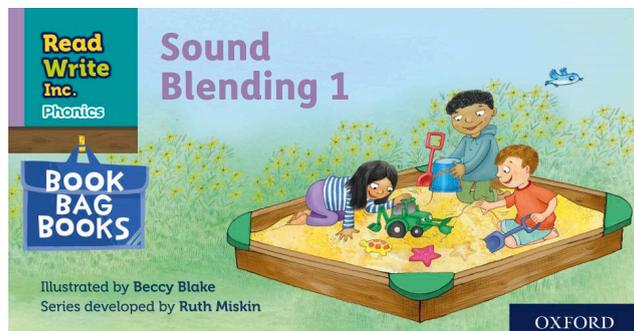
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## Sound blending Book Bag books.

When the children are first learning to read words, they will bring home sound blending books. These books have one word per page. When reading these, encourage your child to say the individual sounds and then blend the sounds together to read the word.

Some of the words have a picture on the opposite page to accompany it. These books look like this:

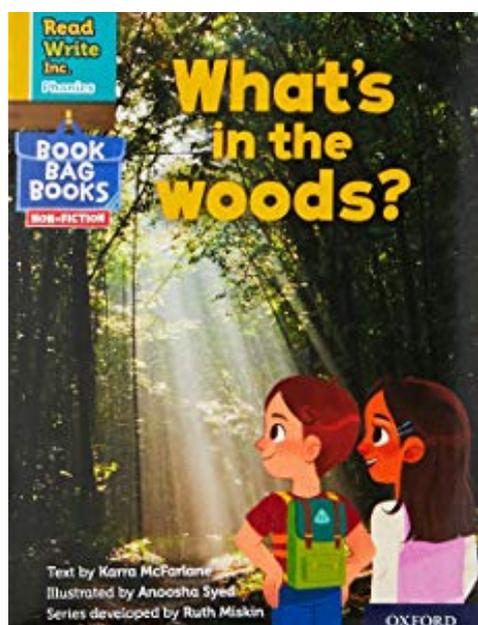


## Book Bag books

Children will then progress on to the 'Book Bag' books. The book they bring home each week will match the sounds and words they are currently learning in phonics lessons, and match the Storybooks children are reading in these lessons. These books will be well-matched to your child's current word-reading abilities and they should be able to read all of the words in the book. If they get stuck on a word, you can encourage them to sound the word out. In school, we call this '**Fred Talk**', which all children will be familiar with. If they get stuck on a 'red' word, which is a word which is not phonetically decodable (for example, 'the', 'were', 'my'), you can simply tell them what the word is. The colour of the Book Bag books match the colour of the Storybooks that your child will be reading in school. There are questions written on the very back page that you can discuss with your child when they read the book.

These books will be given to your child to bring home every **Friday** and will need to be returned the following Friday, and will then be given the next book to take home.

The books look like this:



## 'Sharing' books

In addition to their main reading book, your child will also bring home a 'sharing' book from our book-banded collection in school. This book is a 'sharing book', that they share with an adult at home. This book may include some words that your child may not yet have the sound knowledge to decode. Adults may then need to support their child in reading the word to them. The purpose of the 'sharing' book is to provide your child with another book to enjoy reading, and for adults at home to enjoy and share with them, with adult supporting word reading if needed.

Please be aware the colour of the sharing book will not necessarily match or be the same as the colour of the RWI Book Bag book, that they will also be bringing home.

We ask all parents and carers to read and share books with their child at least 5 times a week, and sign their reading diary. This includes children reading their books out loud, but also reading and sharing a range of books, including picture books, magazines and comics, and books from the library. This can also include adults reading to their child, as this fosters a real love of shared reading.

### Cost of the new Book Bag books

We have invested over £3500 in the Book Bag books, as we feel it is of the utmost importance that children are able to practice their word-reading at home with exciting and engaging high-quality books. We are pleased to have been able to spend the money in this way, but it is vital we have your support in maintaining the collection, so that all children have access to the books they need. With this in mind, we ask that any book sent home is looked after carefully and is always returned to school. Please support your child in developing a routine for keeping their books in a safe place at home, ready to bring back to school each day.

If books are lost, please inform your child's class teacher. **We will then ask that you pay £6.50 for the cost of replacing the book**, as soon as possible. This can be done via Parent-Pay. This is to ensure we always have enough books to give to every child, to support the development of their reading.

Thank you in advance for your support; please do ask your child's class teacher if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,



Sabrina Kelly  
Co-Principal



Samina Saidiya  
Co-Principal