



## HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Learning and Achieving Together*

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Monday 28th September 2020



## Welcome to Bug Club!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Three years ago, our school successfully incorporated a reading programme called Bug Club into the school. We are delighted with how it has provided more opportunities for children to read at home.

Below you will find key information about the scheme and how as a new parent or carer you can get involved. As a current parent or carer, the information is a reminder of all that is offered.

### What is Bug Club?

Bug Club is a finely-levelled reading scheme, which ensures that all children can find books at exactly the right level for them. What's more, there are online versions for every printed title and a personalised website for each child.

### Using the online reading world

If you have access to an internet connection, your child can enjoy reading **Bug Club** books online as well as in print. Each child has a unique homepage and can log into it by following these steps:

1. Go to [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk)
2. Enter the login details, these details can be found on a sticker within your child's reading record book.
3. Your child's homepage will appear.

### Reading a book online

We allocate books to your child according to their reading levels. These books will appear in the 'My Stuff' area of their personal homepages.



Throughout the books there are quiz questions for your child to complete. To answer a question, just click on the bug icon. Your child does not need to finish all the quiz questions in one sitting and can come back to a book later.

When your child has finished all the quiz questions in a book, he or she will earn 'ActiveLearn Coins'. By reading more books, your child will earn enough coins to 'buy' a reward in one of the many reward schemes. The answers to the quiz questions will be sent back to our teacher site so that we can see how your child is progressing. We will also be able to assign more books for your child to read if the virtual book bag is running low.

When your child has finished a book, it will move to 'My Library'. Children can read these books again if they want to, or they can choose new books from 'My Stuff'.

## **Getting involved**

### **The reader**

Until they are fluent readers, younger children will benefit from reading aloud to you as often as possible. By the time they are in Years 5 or 6, many children prefer to read silently to themselves. Create quiet opportunities for them to do so, but then talk to them about the book they are reading.

### **Sharing reading**

When sharing a book with your child, try to take opportunities to talk about the book - before, during and after reading.

**Before reading:** look at the book cover and talk about your child's expectations. Is the book likely to be fiction or non-fiction? Have you read other books together about these characters or by this author? What does your child think the book is going to be about?

**While reading:** support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.

**After reading:** talk about the book. What was it about? Did it match your child's expectations? Ask questions beginning with the words *how* and *why* to check that your child has been able to read between the lines. Ask whether anything seemed puzzling. Then ask your child to explain what the best and worst bits of the book were, and why.

### **Need help?**

If your child is having trouble using the pupil world, help can be found in the Help Section of ActiveLearn Primary (in the top right-hand corner of the website).

We strongly recommend using Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox web browsers with ActiveLearn. If you prefer to use Internet Explorer, please check you have at least IE9 in order for everything to work as it should.

## **Parent/Carer Support and Expectations**

To support your child's reading and understanding, we ask that parents and carers supervise children during their reading and answering of questions, this is particularly important for answers requiring written responses. Teachers will be constantly reviewing and assessing the responses children make and where necessary discuss any concerns they may have regarding this and provide further support.

All pupils will be assigned a collection of books to take them up to the end of term.

For Years 1 and 2, we will expect pupils to complete at least 1 book a week. Given the length of text, Years 3 and 4 will be expected to complete at least 1-2 book every 2 weeks and Years 5 and 6 at least 1 book every 3 weeks. A Bug Club read can be counted as one of your three expected reads a week.

Alongside using Bug Club for reading, please ensure that your child is continuing to read their assigned book from school and recording quality entries into their diaries. For further guidance on this or the reading domains, please see the inside cover of your child's reading diary.

If your child does not have access to a computer, laptop or device to use Bug Club, please speak to your class teacher about the alternatives we can provide at school.

We look forward to sharing in this exciting reading programme with you!

Mr Jon James  
Assistant Headteacher

Ms Deborah Sirl  
Assistant Headteacher