

# Our Reading Journey - LFS Autumn 1

We are extremely excited to begin your child's reading journey with you as they enter our nursery! **Phonics** is a way of teaching reading where your child will be taught to read letters, or groups of letters, by saying the sound(s) they represent. Children can then start to read words by blending the sounds together to make a word.

## We will be working on Phase 1:

Phase 1 concentrates on developing your child's speaking and listening skills which lay the firm foundations for the phonics work that will follow. The emphasis, during phase 1, is to get children attuned to the sounds around them.

Phase 1 is divided into seven aspects. Typically, your child will focus on aspect 1-5 during the first half of the autumn term.

Here is a breakdown of the different aspects and some information about how you could develop these at home with your child.

## Aspect 1 - Environmental Sounds

This aspect will focus on children's awareness of the sounds around them and developing their listening skills. To support this, you could go on a listening walk and discuss what you can hear with your child, drum on different items outside and compare the sounds or design your own shakers.

## Aspect 2 - Instrumental Sounds

This aspect aims to develop children's awareness of sounds made by various instruments and noise makers. To support this, you could compare the sounds made by different sound makers, you could encourage your child to play instruments alongside a story or focus on making loud and quiet sounds when given instruction.

## Aspect 3 - Body Percussion

The aim of this aspect is to develop children's awareness of sounds and rhythms. To support this, make sure you sing songs, nursery rhymes and action rhymes, listen to a range of music and help your child to develop a 'sound vocabulary' (for example: loud, quiet, bang, shake, scrape).

If you need any further help or information on supporting your child's reading journey, please don't hesitate to ask!

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## Aspect 4 - Rhythm and Rhyme

This aspect aims to develop children's appreciation and experiences of rhythm and rhyme in speech. To support this, read plenty of rhyming stories with your child and point out words that rhyme, give the children a selection of cards with pictures on and ask them to find the rhyming matches.

## Aspect 5 - Alliteration

The focus is on initial (first) sounds of words. To support this, play games like I-Spy to encourage your child to think about what letter a word starts with or try hunting for objects that begin with the same sound.



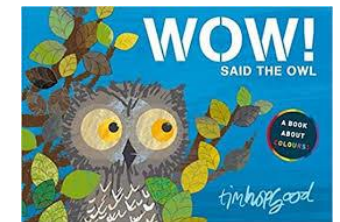
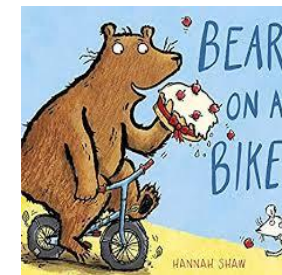
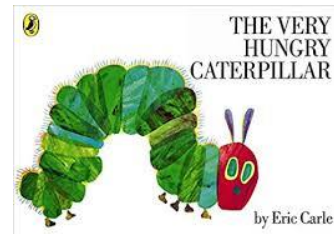
## Reading for pleasure

Reading books and talking about them with your child at this stage is so vitaly important as this will help to increase their vocabulary while encouraging them to see reading as a source of pleasure. You should try to make a time to do this daily.

Talk about the pictures with your child as you move through the book. Point to items and name them in order to increase their vocabulary and understanding. Then ask your child to name them with you and praise your child for their response.

You can also ask them to locate items on the page for themselves- they'll find this is lots of fun!

Don't forget to take a trip to our local library and find new favourite books together. Here are some great ones to look out for:



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