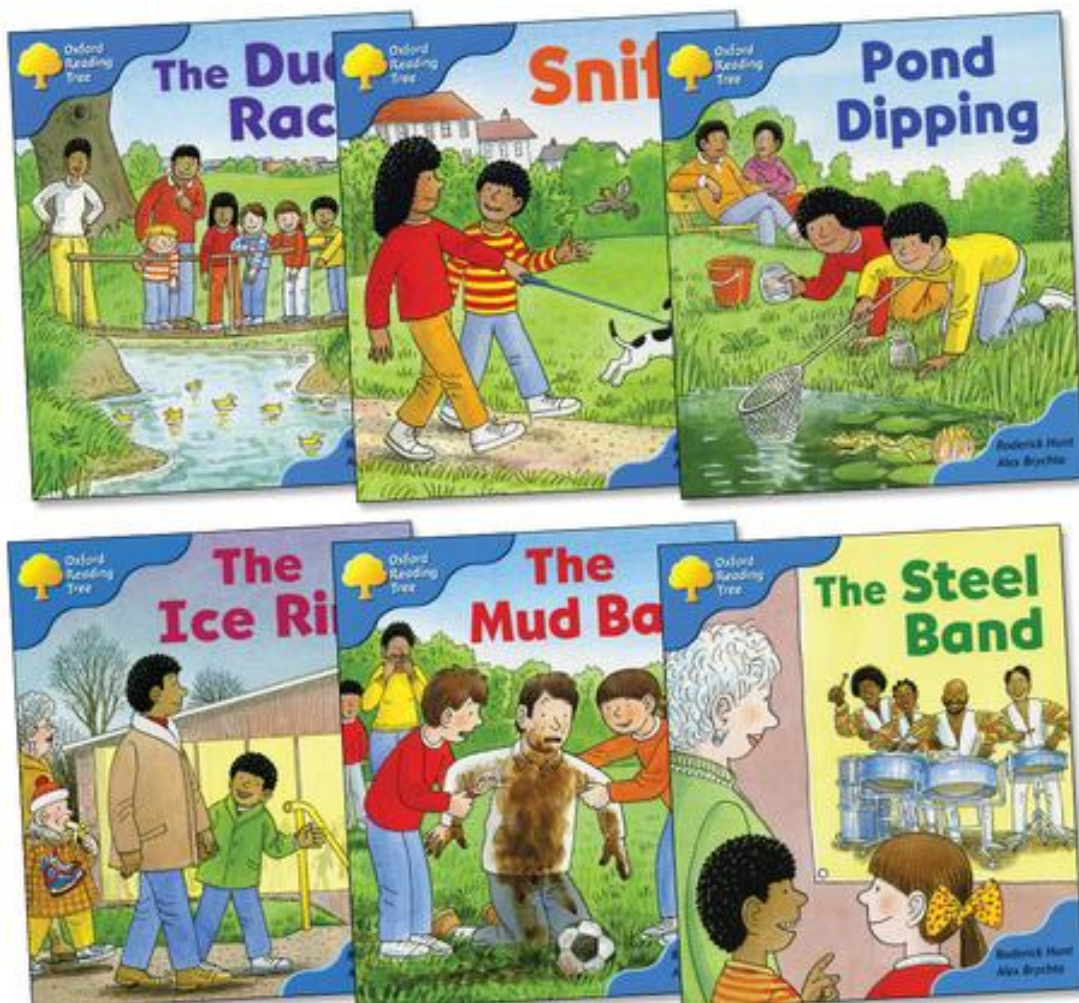


Reading and Phonics at Brookvale Primary School

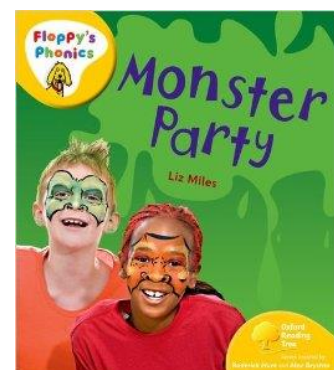
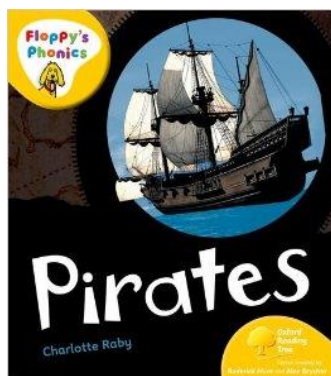
Books from across all the reading schemes have been put together, so children will have a larger choice of books, all of which will be suitable for their ability. They can choose factual non-fiction books as well as story books. They can choose the Biff, Chip and Kipper Oxford Reading Tree books if they wish. However now there will also be other books to choose from that children can bring home to read. Children can choose from these schemes: Oxford Reading Tree books, Project X books, Songbirds, Rigby Star, Wolf Hill, Tree Tops and Floppy's Phonics books.



All the reading books have been organised into book bands, each one with a different colour.



When children are at the earliest level of reading they will start on light pink band. The books get progressively harder. Light pink being for early readers and lime being the most challenging level.



Phonics

What is Phonics?

From a very early stage, children develop an awareness of different sounds in spoken language.

They develop an understanding that spoken words are made up of different sounds (phonemes) and they learn to match these phonemes to letters (graphemes).

Phonics is about children knowing how letters link to sounds (graphemes to phonemes), e.g. c as in 'cat', ll as in 'fell', ee as in 'sheep'.

Once children begin learning sounds, they are used quickly to read and spell words. It is very important however that when blending and segmenting words that children just say the sounds ie. 'c' and not 'cuh', 'd' and not 'duh', etc.

There are two key skills children need to learn:

Blending

To learn to read well children must be able to smoothly blend sounds together.

The teacher shows children how to do this – c-a-t = cat. The separate sounds (phonemes) are spoken aloud, in order, all through the word, and are then merged together into the whole word. The merging together is called blending – it is a vital skill for reading.

Segmenting

Segmenting is a skill used in spelling. In order to spell the word cat, it is necessary to segment the word into its constituent sounds; c-a-t. Children often understand segmenting as 'chopping' a word. Before writing a word, young children need time to think about it, say the word several times, 'chop' the word and then write it.

Phonics is taught throughout Brookvale Primary School using 'Letters and Sounds'. This is a scheme used nationally. In the Foundation Stage this is supported with 'Jolly Phonics.' Many of our reading schemes are based on phonic decoding. These include:

Phonic Play

Teach your Monster to Read

Mr Thorne does Phonics

Espresso

