



English Reading Curriculum Milestones

Big Idea (NC links)	Milestone 1	Milestone 2	Milestone 3
Read words accurately This concept involves decoding and fluency.	 Apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words. Respond speedily with the correct sound to graphemes (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes, including, where applicable, alternative sounds for graphemes. Read accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words containing GPCs that have been taught. Read common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word. Read words containing taught GPCs and -s, -es, -ing, -ed, -er and -est endings. Read other words of more than one syllable that contain taught GPCs. Read words with contractions (for example, I'm, I'll, we'll) and understand that the apostrophe represents the omitted letter(s). 	 Apply a growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology). Read further exception words, noting the spellings. 	 Apply knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes. Read age-appropriate books with confidence and fluency (including whole novels). (Note: this should be through normal reading rather than direct teaching.)







- Read aloud accurately books that are consistent with phonic knowledge and that do not require other strategies to work out words.
- Re-read these books to build up fluency and confidence in word reading.
- Read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the graphemes taught so far, especially recognising alternative sounds for graphemes.
- Read accurately words of two or more syllables that contain the same graphemes as above.
- Read words containing common suffixes.
- Read most words quickly and accurately, without overt sounding and blending, when they have been frequently encountered.
- Read aloud books closely matched to their improving phonic knowledge, sounding out unfamiliar words accurately, automatically and without undue hesitation.
- Re-read books to build up fluency and confidence in word reading.







Understand texts

This concept involves understanding both the literal and more subtle nuances of texts.

- Discuss events.
- Predict events.
- Link reading to own experiences and other books.
- Join in with stories or poems.
- Check that reading makes sense and self-correct.
- Infer what characters are like from actions.
- Ask and answer questions about texts.
- Discuss favourite words and phrases.
- Listen to and discuss a wide range of texts.
- Recognise and join in with (including roleplay) recurring language.
- Explain and discuss understanding of texts.
- Discuss the significance of the title and events.
- Make inferences on the basis of what is being said and done.

- Draw inferences from reading.
- Predict from details stated and implied.
- Recall and summarise main ideas.
- Discuss words and phrases that capture the imagination.
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction, using titles, headings, sub-headings and indexes.
- Prepare poems and plays to read aloud with expression, volume, tone and intonation.
- Identify recurring themes and elements of different stories (e.g. good triumphing over evil).
- Recognise some different forms of poetry.
- Explain and discuss understanding of reading, maintaining focus on the topic.

- Recommend books to peers, giving reasons for choices.
- Identify and discuss themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing.
- Make comparisons within and across books.
- Learn a wide range of poetry by heart.
- Prepare poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience.
- Check that the book makes sense, discussing understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context.
- Ask questions to improve understanding.
- Draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.







•	Draw inferences such as
	inferring characters' feelings,
	thoughts and motives from their
	actions, and justifying inferences
	with evidence.

- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied.
- Identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarise these.
- Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.
- Ask questions to improve understanding of a text.

- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied.
- Summarise the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas.
- Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.
- Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader.
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction.
- Participate in discussion about books, taking turns and listening and responding to what others say.
- Distinguish between statements of fact and opinion.
- Provide reasoned justifications for views.

