

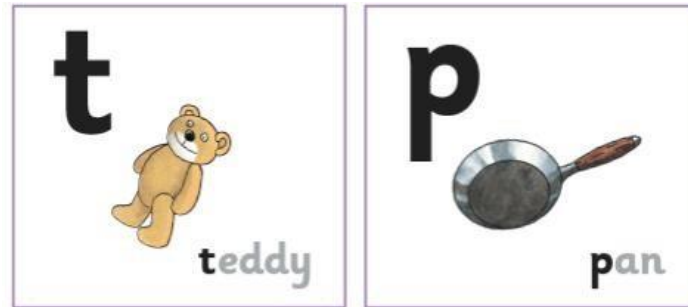


ST JAMES

Preparatory School

Reception Newsletter: Autumn Term, Week 4

This week's Phonics sounds:



We hope you enjoyed the Phonics Workshop this week. Please do read the PowerPoint if you did not get the chance to make it.

This video is really useful to help you to know how to pronounce the sounds:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/phonics/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42jb6PopZCI>

English

We have learnt the story of the Gingerbread man using a story map. We are reciting it using this map and with actions. We have learnt the story bit-by-bit, adding a piece to the story map each day. We are recapping it every day and using it throughout our lessons. We are also using lots of practical resources to tell the story.

The words in **red** are action words. Here are the actions the children are learning:

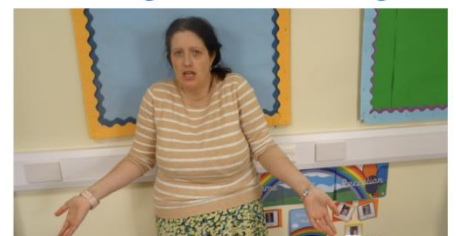
Once Upon a Time



but



unfortunately



who



so



until



The story transcript:

The Gingerbread Man

Once upon a time, there was a little old woman **who** baked a gingerbread man. **Unfortunately**, the gingerbread man ran out of the house and down the lane.

“Stop, stop little gingerbread man!” shouted the little old woman.

But the gingerbread man shouted *“Run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.”*

So, the little old woman chased the gingerbread man down the lane **until** he came to a horse.

“Stop, stop little gingerbread man!” shouted the horse.

But the gingerbread man shouted *“Run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.”*

So, the little old woman and the horse chased the gingerbread man down the lane **until** they came to a cow.

“Stop, stop little gingerbread man!” shouted the cow.

But the gingerbread man shouted *“Run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.”*

So, the little old woman, the horse and the cow chased the gingerbread man down the lane **until** they came to a goat.

“Stop, stop little gingerbread man!” shouted the goat.

But the gingerbread man shouted *“Run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.”*

So, the little old woman, the horse, the cow and the goat chased the gingerbread man down the lane **until** they came to a dog.

“Stop, stop little gingerbread man!” shouted the dog.

But the gingerbread man shouted *“Run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.”*

So, the little old woman, the horse, the cow, the goat and the dog chased the gingerbread man down the lane **until** they came to a river.

There the gingerbread man met a fox - a lean fox, a mean fox.

“Quick, quick little gingerbread man! Climb onto my tail and I will help you cross the river,” said the fox.

So, the gingerbread man climbed onto the fox’s tail.

“My feet are getting all wet!” moaned the gingerbread man.

“Quick, quick little gingerbread man! Climb onto my back,” said the fox.

So, the gingerbread man climbed onto the fox’s back.

“My legs are getting all wet!” moaned the gingerbread man.

“Quick, quick little gingerbread man! Climb onto my head,” said the fox.

So, the gingerbread man climbed onto the fox’s head.

“My hands are getting all wet!” moaned the gingerbread man.

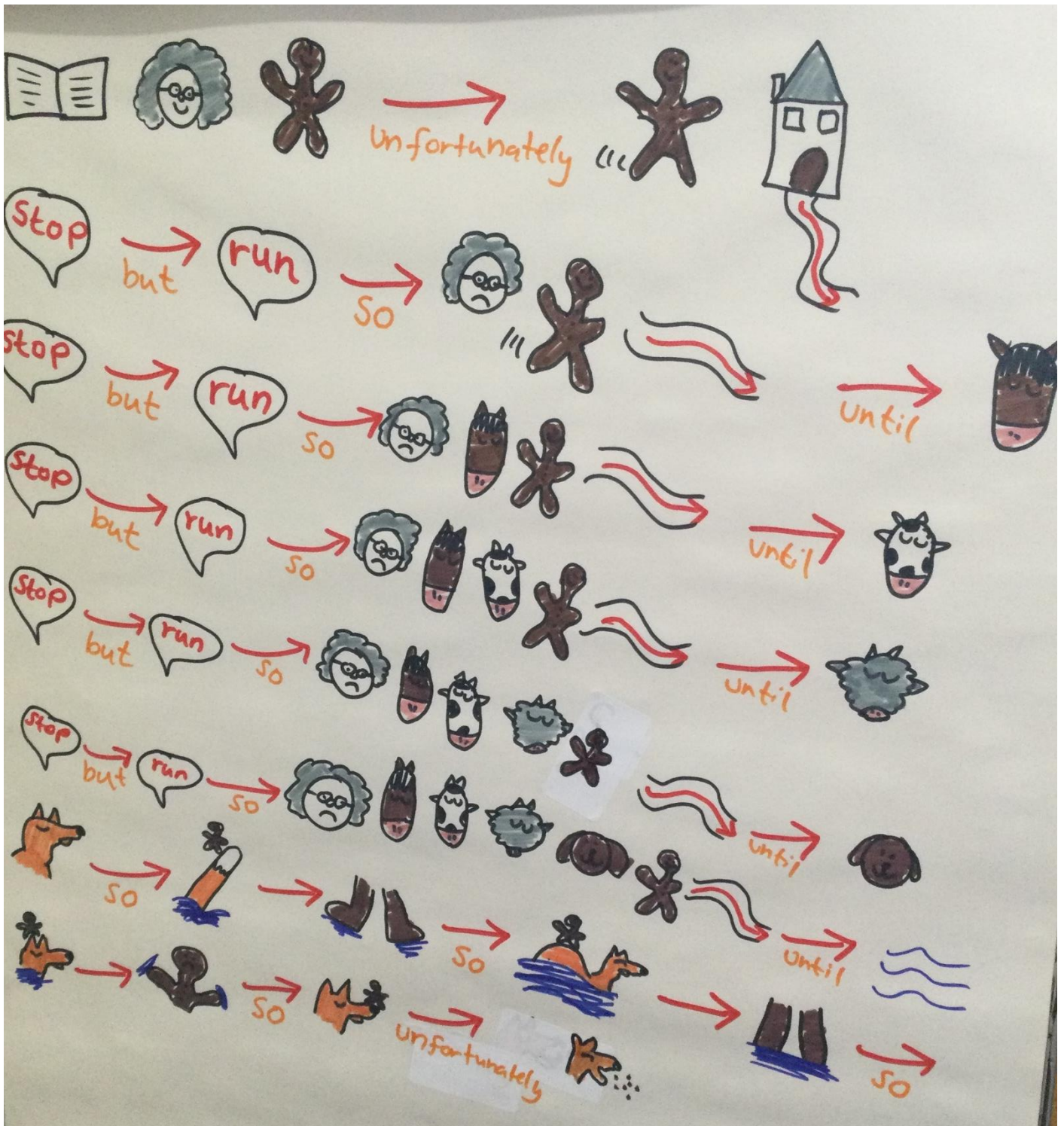
“Quick, quick little gingerbread man. Climb onto my nose” said the fox.

So, the gingerbread man climbed onto the fox’s nose.

Unfortunately, the fox ate him up in one big gulp!

Snip Snap Snout. Our story is out!

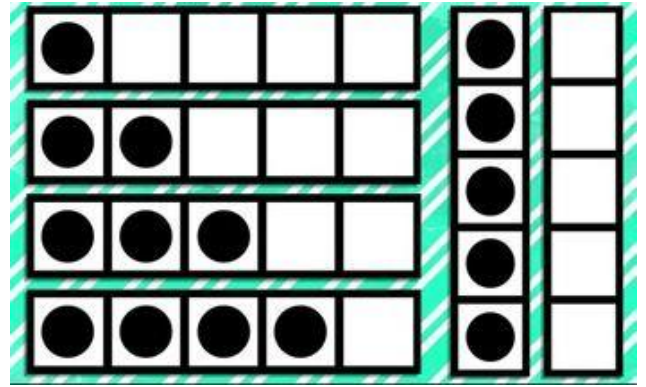
The story map:



Maths

In Maths, we focused on looking in detail at the number 4 and we have started using five frames with the children. We will use these and ten frames often with the children.

Five frames and ten frames help children to visualise numbers' cardinal values and support their understanding of number bonds. They also demonstrate how different arrangements are worth the same amount. These are used with cubes and with real-life objects.



We have used five frames to count natural objects to 4. It has helped us see that 4 and 1 make 5.



Forest School

We were very lucky to have Miss Daisy, the EYFS club teacher and Franzgoli's mum, to take the class for Forest School on Wednesday this week. She will be taking the children for the next few weeks to teach them Forest School skills. Miss Daisy told us all about the Forest School rules of 'no pick', 'no pick' and 'be careful with a stick'. The children were introduced to some Forest School activities such as leaf crown making, using hand drills to make holes in wood, collecting bugs in pots and digging with trowels and buckets. They loved it!

We ended the session with a real fire using a Kelly Kettle which contains the flames. The children were fascinated and even more excited when we used the hot water to make hot chocolate.



Homework

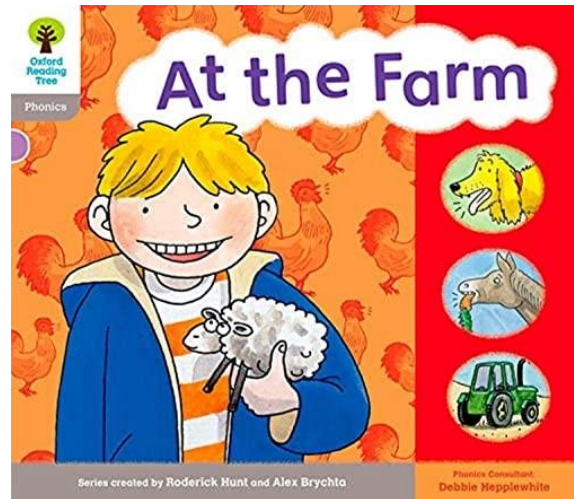
Reading Books:

You will have noticed that we have sent your child home this week with a reading book.

The books are without words to help the children's comprehension skills.

Please encourage them to talk about what they see on each page and the story too. You can also ask your child to look at the pictures on the page and ask them to tell you the initial sound.

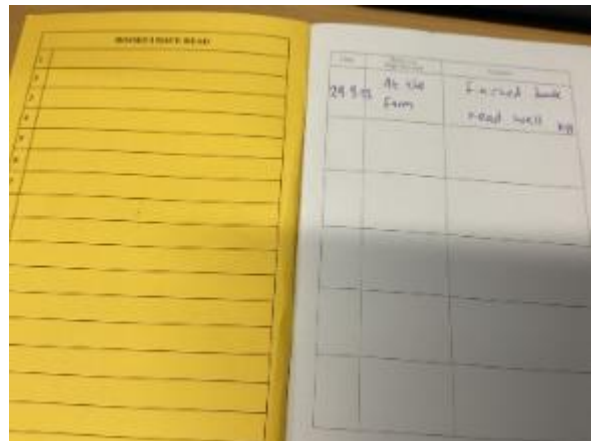
For example - At the Farm book - you may ask what does cow begin with - C. Or what does tractor begin with - T. The books without words are to prepare your child as they start to blend and read.



Reading Records:

All reading books come with a yellow reading record.

Example:



Please date and sign when your child has read. That way we know to change the book in school. You do not have to write a comment, but if you have not signed and dated in the reading record, we won't be able to change the book.

Please try and read every night, this does not have to be the whole book but just a page or two is perfect.

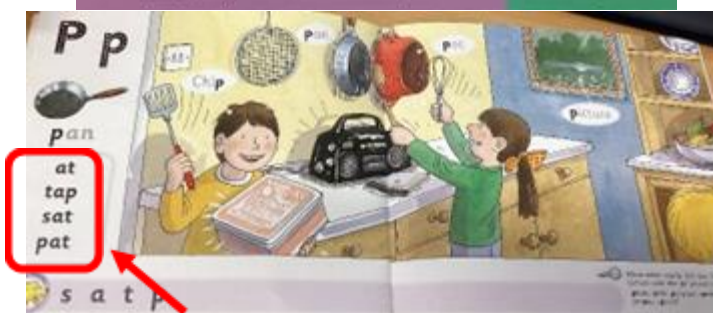
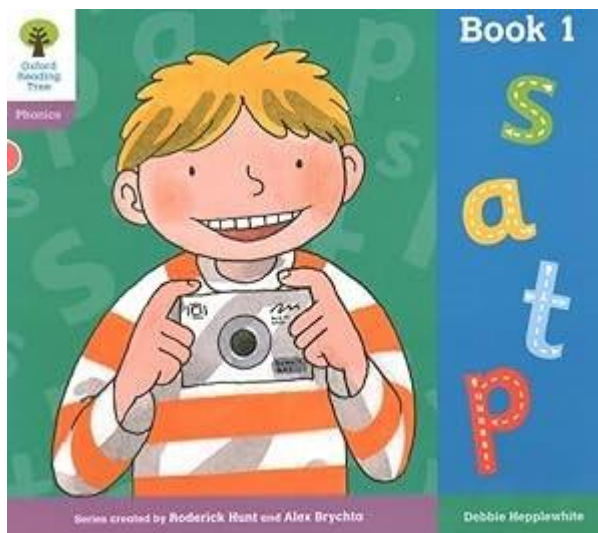
Floppy's Phonics Books:

We are starting to send an additional Phonics book for you to read at home to consolidate learning. It is to help your child practise the taught sounds.

It recaps our Phonics lessons on screen and matches the Floppy's Phonics lessons (which you now have access to with the login below).

Please spend a good amount of time reading the book, talking about the initial sounds. They **do not** have to read the words on the right-hand page.

There are a few phonetic words on the left-hand page that they could try to sound out and blend. Please ask them to do this with their pointer finger and to press the 'sound buttons'.



(read these words only)

Floppy's Phonics Online:

We are delighted to offer you access to our online reading and Phonics activities that link to our Phonics scheme called Floppy's Phonics.

These log in details will also be included in your child's reading record.

Link: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Class: receptionsj

Password: phonics

Floppy's Phonics
Extra Practice Zone
Information booklet

Your child is learning to read with *Floppy's Phonics*, a step-by-step synthetic phonics reading scheme. It introduces the children to the letters and sounds – the alphabetic code – that will become the foundation of their reading and writing.

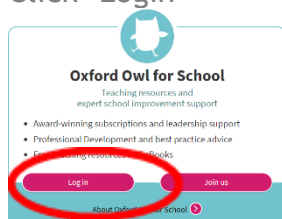
Your child's school has a subscription to *Floppy's Phonics Online* on Oxford Owl.

This booklet shows you how you can help your child practise and consolidate their reading skills by using the **Extra Practice Zone**.

What is the Extra Practice Zone?

The Extra Practice Zone is an area on *Floppy's Phonics Online* where your child can practise their phonics skills at home, with the help of an adult. It contains 42 interactive eBooks, each offering a range of activities that will help improve your child's reading skills. Your child may have already practised some of these activities at school, either with the whole class or on their own.

Step 1:
Click 'Login'



Step 2:
Make sure you are
clicked on students

Step 3:
Type in
Class: receptionsj
Password: phonics

Things to Remember

- **Items on pegs:** We have now placed a cloth bag on your child's peg to put any spare clothes into, so they do not have to keep them in their school bag.
- **House badges:** Every child was given a badge last Friday in the colour of their house. Please feel free to attach it to their blazer/tie/cardigan/bag/coat so that they know which house they are in.
- **Waterproofs:** Another reminder to please send in some waterproofs for us to use at Forest School. We will keep these in school along with their wellies. Forest school is changing to a Wednesday as Miss Daisy is kindly taking the sessions for us.
- **Harvest:** Our *Harvest Festival* is next Thursday, 3 October and this year, we will be collecting for our new school charity, *Under One Sky*. More information about the wonderful work that is done for London's homeless may be found here: [Homepage – Under One Sky \(underoneskytogether.com\)](https://underoneskytogether.com) The following items (which do not have to be new but in a usable condition) will be greatly appreciated:



ST JAMES PREP - HARVEST 2024 - UNDER ONE SKY



Winter hats	Soup
Gloves	Travel-size tooth-paste
Scarves	Travel-size shampoo & conditioner
Sleeping bags	Soap
Blankets	Socks
Pillows	Shoes
Tracksuit tops and bottoms	Non-perishable food items
Coats	
Jackets	



- **Baby Photo:** A final reminder to please send in some named baby photos of your child at certain stages in their life e.g. baby, 1, 2, 3, 4. We are going to make timelines with these. If needed, you could email it to office@stjamesprep.co.uk I would like to complete the activity with every child please.
- **Individual School Photographs:** Just a reminder that Friday 4th October will be Photograph Day, where your child will need to be dressed smartly and in their **school uniform**. They do not have to wear their gym kits on that day.