

Reception Reading End Points (Early Learning Goals)

This document outlines the end-of-year expectations for children in Reception, based on the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) for Literacy, specifically focusing on Word Reading and Comprehension. The foundational knowledge has been highlighted – this is the core understanding and set of skills that underpin early reading development. In Reception, reading development focuses on two parallel tracks: the mechanical skill of Word Reading (decoding using phonics) and Comprehension (making sense of the text). By the end of the year, children should be transitioning from purely decoding sounds to reading full sentences with understanding.

Objective	Strand
Say a sound for every letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs.	Word Reading
Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending.	Word Reading
Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.	Word Reading
Retell stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.	Comprehension
Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories.	Comprehension
Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.	Comprehension
Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by answering questions and explaining what is happening.	Comprehension