



Welcome to Bug Club!

Dear Parent or Carer,

St Aldhelm's has recently acquired a reading programme for Reception Robins, Year 1 Nightingales and Year 2 Magpies called Bug Club that we'd like to share with you. The Government have updated their expectations for systematic synthetic phonics including matching reading books. This means that all children must have books, which closely match their phonic level.



Below you will find key information about the scheme and how you can get involved. We hope that you and your child will love these books and enjoy reading them at home.

What is Bug Club?

Bug Club is a finely-levelled reading scheme, which ensures that **all children can find books at exactly the right level for them.**

Using the online reading world

Your child can enjoy reading **Bug Club** books online. Each child has a unique homepage and can log into it by following these steps:

1. Go to www.activelearnprimary.co.uk
2. Enter the login details:

User name: this will be the first four letters of their first name and the first four letters of their surname, with no gap i.e Phoebe Smith would be phoesmit. If your child has less than four letters in their name, their username may be less than eight characters i.e Sid Smith would be sidsmit

Password changeme

School code klx3

If you change your child's password, please keep a note of this in the back of their Reading Record. This is so that any adult helping your child to read in school, can access their online books.

Reading a book online

We allocate books to your child according to their reading levels. These books will appear in the 'My Stuff' area of their personal homepages.

Throughout the books there are quiz questions for your child to complete. To answer a question, just click on the bug icon. Your child does not need to finish all the quiz questions in one sitting and can come back to a book later.

When your child has finished all the quiz questions in a book, he or she will earn 'ActiveLearn Coins'. By reading more books, your child will earn enough coins to 'buy' a reward in one of the many reward schemes. The answers to the quiz questions will be sent back to our teacher site so

that we can see how your child is progressing. We will also be able to assign more books for your child to read if the virtual book bag is running low.

When your child has finished a book, it will move to 'My Library'. Children can read these books again if they want to, or they can choose new books from 'My Stuff'.

Getting involved

The reader

Until they are fluent readers, younger children will benefit from reading aloud to you as often as possible. By the time they are in Years 5 or 6, many children prefer to read silently to themselves. Create quiet opportunities for them to do so, but then talk to them about the book they are reading.

Sharing reading

When sharing a book with your child, try to take opportunities to talk about the book - before, during and after reading.

Before reading: look at the book cover and talk about your child's expectations. Is the book likely to be fiction or non-fiction? Have you read other books together about these characters or by this author? What does your child think the book is going to be about?

While reading: support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.

After reading: talk about the book using the Reading Dog questions in the front of your child's yellow Reading Record. What was it about? Did it match your child's expectations? Ask questions beginning with the words *how* and *why* to check that your child has been able to read between the lines. Ask whether anything seemed puzzling. Then ask your child to explain what the best and worst bits of the book were, and why.

Reading to you child: as shared in our Welcome Meetings, children must be exposed to books beyond their phonic level to develop their language, follow their own interests and foster a love of books. This is where bedtime stories and visits to your library for your child to select their own books is crucial.

Need help?

If your child is having trouble using the pupil world, help can be found in the Help Section of ActiveLearn Primary (in the top right-hand corner of the website).

Please note: We strongly recommend using **Google Chrome** or Mozilla Firefox web browsers with ActiveLearn on a phone, tablet or computer. If you prefer to use Internet Explorer, please check you have at least IE9 in order for everything to work as it should.

Books have been allocated for your child in Year 1 Nightingales and Year 2 Magpies, so Bug Club is all ready for your child to get started as soon as you like.

Yours sincerely

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Reception Robins Year 1 Nightingales Year 2 Magpies Class Teachers