

Reading and Phonics

At Manor Green School reading is one of our highest priorities. Reading is an essential skill and we want to ensure our children are given the very best reading opportunities to enable them to lead successful lives, in line with their level of need.

We aim to develop our children's reading ability alongside inspiring their love and enjoyment of reading. The best way to do this is through phonics; learning to read by using letter sounds and blending them together to make words.



Why have we made a change?

The Government announced changes to the teaching of phonics in schools. We used a combination of Letters and Sound and Song of Sounds, although both schemes worked well we felt the need to use a high quality, accredited scheme.

After a lot of research, we have implemented Rising Stars, Reading Planet Rocket Phonics. This is a structured programme that includes home/school reading books that match the phonics being taught in the lessons



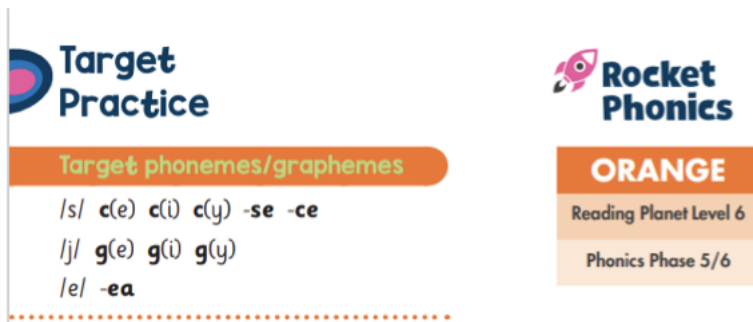
Here are some things to note:

- Most children will be accessing their reading via the online platform. (please click the link <https://my.risingstars-uk.com/Default.aspx?cid=DL211292>)
- Reading Diaries will be replaced with information on the class dojo
- We will be reading the paper copy in class
- If you require a paper copy, please contact your class teacher on the Dojo
- Below is a picture from a book as an example.



What will my child read?

Each week your child will access 2 books, a '*Phonics Target Practise book*' matched to the sound you child knows in phonics. This will be accessible online.



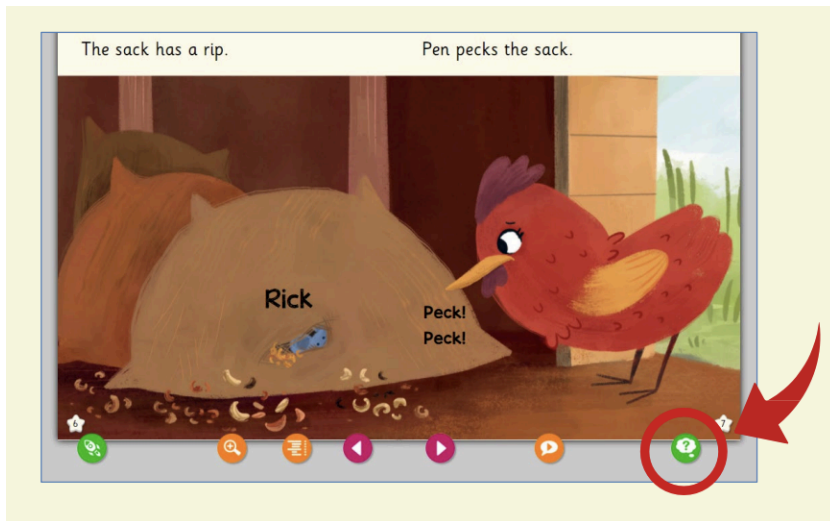
Rocket Phonics is a phonics teaching and learning programme that includes a wide range of teaching practice books in digital format. These eBooks will be assigned to your child and read online at school and at home on any internet-enabled device.

The books are designed to support children to read, as well as supporting those who are becoming fluent readers. The books include a variety of fiction and non-fiction, written by phonics experts and children's book writers.

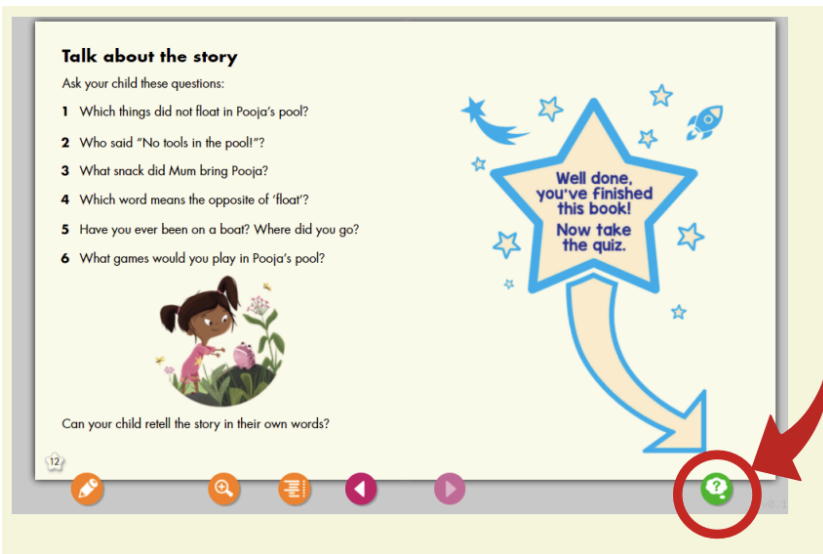
The books are carefully levelled according to book banding and other criteria, to ensure gradual progression in difficulty.



Each eBook features a variety of quizzes to check understanding of what has been read.



Click on the green button at the bottom right of the page to open the quizzes.



Complete the quizzes (continued)

Complete the quiz by submitting the answer to each question, and navigating through the quiz by clicking on the next question number in the circles below the quiz.

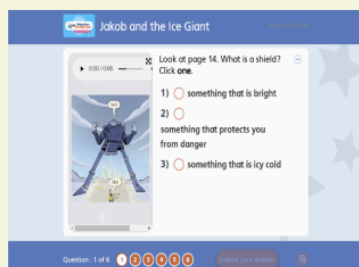
At the end of the quiz, click on the clipboard icon to submit all the answers. This quiz is also instantly marked, and your child is awarded a bronze, silver or gold star according to their score. If your child gets an answer wrong the first time, they will be given a second attempt. The latest attempt will feed through into the final score and reporting.

Your child will be given the opportunity to review their answers at the end of each quiz.

The quiz question types

The quizzes in *Rocket Phonics Online* consist of the following main question types:

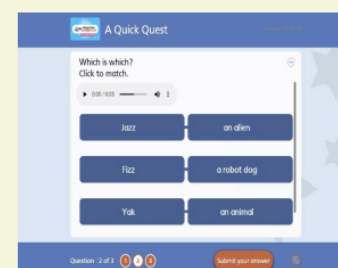
- **Multiple choice** – click in the circle next to the correct answer.
- **Fill in the gaps** – click on a word and then click on the correct gap to place the word there.



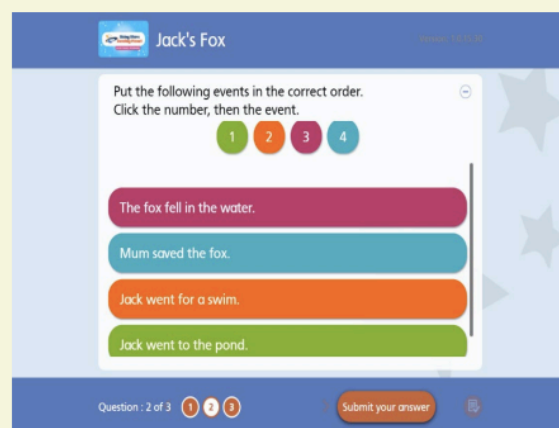
- **Complete the grid** – as with Multiple choice above, click on the circles next to the correct answers in the grid.



- **Connecting/sequencing** – click on an item in the left column and then click on the associated item in the right column to connect them.



- **Highlight the right word** – click and drag to highlight the correct word. On an iPad, hold your finger down to highlight a single word and drag to highlight multiple words.
- **Matching** – click on a coloured lozenge at the top of the quiz and then click on the associated lozenge below, which becomes the same colour.



Note: The instruction lines for the quizzes are recorded and can be played using the audio button close to the instruction line.

Look at page 7. What was the plan?
Click one.

0:00 / 0:05

Alongside the '*Phonics Target Practise book*' your children will have an actual reading book, '*A shared Home/School reading book*' you will need to read with them and ask them questions as they read to develop their understanding and comprehension.

This book is pitched slightly higher than their current reading ability which is why you will need to read alongside your child. The focus is to develop a love of sharing stories and working on understanding and comprehension.

Both books need to be read and shared repeatedly throughout the week to build up children's fluency, expression, understanding of text, character, settings and plots.

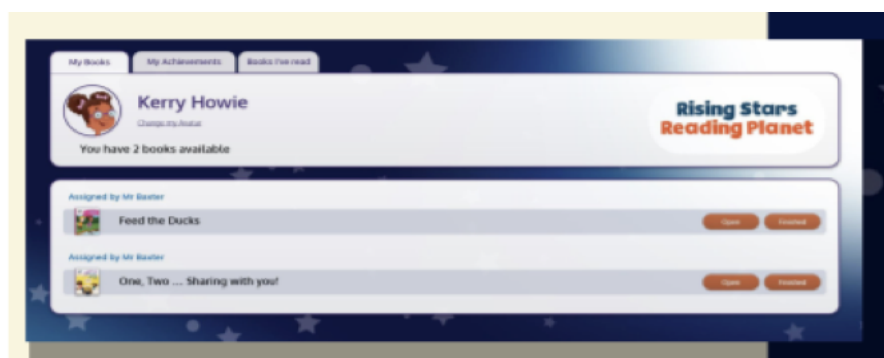
How to log on to Rising Stars

Rising Stars can be accessed from any, computer, tablet or mobile phone connected to the internet.

You can log in via: <http://my.risingstars-uk.com>

Our school's unique centre ID, 211292 and your children login details, provided by your class teacher, shared on dojo. If you have any problems please contact your class teacher.

Finding books on the Dashboard



Once the eBooks have been assigned to your child, they will appear in the pupil dashboard (in the '**My Books**' section) when you log into Rocket Phonics Online. Click on the '**Open**' button to launch the books on your screen. **NB** make sure the rocket phonics online screen is maximised so the quiz screens can be viewed in full.



Click on the rocket icon to go back to the pupil dashboard.

When you have completed a book and the quizzes within it, click on the "**finished**" button. The book will then move to your '**Books I've read**' section of the dashboard. The '**My Achievements**' section contains the quiz results in the form of gold, silver or bronze stars.

Your children can personalise their dashboard by choosing their own avatar.

What is inside the books?

In the "**Target Practice**" books the reading focusses on small groups of letter-sounds. All the books are fully decodable, which means they only contain letter-sounds and 'tricky' words that the children have been taught in class. ('Tricky' words are also called 'common exception words' and include words like, he, she, they and were that don't follow the phonics sounding out rules.).

Each book in Rocket Phonics has one or more 'checkpoint' quizzes that appear throughout the book. The quizzes are designed to check children's understanding of the text up to that point and are indicated by the quiz icon as shown above.

The books also contain a feature page of questions at the back of each book that can be used to check understanding as well.

Results and Rewards

For each end-of-book quiz the children complete, they will receive a bronze, silver or gold star, based on the proportion of correct answers they scored. These rewards can be views in the 'My Achievements' section of the child's dashboard.

- **3 Marks**
Bronze: 0–36%
Silver: 37–72%
Gold: 73–100%
- **4 Marks**
Bronze: 0–50%
Silver: 51–78%
Gold: 79–100%
- **5 Marks**
Bronze: 0–59%
Silver: 60–79%
Gold: 80–100%

Teachers will be able to see how pupils are doing as a class or individually through the teacher reporting dashboard.

Any queries of questions please contact your class teacher.