



Welcome to Bug Club!

Dear Parent or Carer,

Bells Farm have an online subscription to Bug Club which your child can start using and enjoying at home. We teach phonics lessons using Bug Club and your child can access e-books related to the phonic sounds they have learnt.

What is Bug Club?

Bug Club is a reading scheme, which offers children a range of online reading books at an appropriate level for them.

Book Bands

Children are allocated reading books through Book Bands, which they progress through. Each Book Band is identified by a colour. Children are individuals and so each child will progress through the Book Bands at their own rate.

It is important to remember that children often learn in fits and starts and have periods of growth followed by periods of consolidation when their progress seems slower for a while. During periods of consolidation, children are developing confidence in using and applying their newly acquired skills.

Logging in

Your child has their own unique homepage. Log into it by following these steps:

- Go to **www.activelearnprimary.co.uk**
- **Username:** first 4 letters of your child's first name followed by first 4 letters of their surname, all lower-case letters (For example, Billy Smith would be billsmit)

Password: swans

- Your child's homepage will appear.
- Please don't change your child's password as we access the books in school too.

Reading the books

Books have been allocated to your child according to their reading level. These books appear in the 'My Stuff' area of their personal homepage.



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, they will earn 'ActiveLearn Coins'. By reading more books, your child will earn enough coins to 'buy' a reward in one of the many virtual reward schemes- these can be accessed through 'My Rewards'. The answers to the quiz questions will be sent back to our teacher site so that they can see how your child is progressing. They will also be able to assign more books for your child to read if their virtual book bag is running low.

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

Supporting your child

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 Key Stage 2, 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. Ask a quick question every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.

After reading: talk about the book. 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 bits of the book were, and if there was anything about it that they didn't enjoy. Additional guidance for supporting your child within each Book Band colour can be found on the school website on the Reading Corner page, in the Bug Club section.

Help section

There is a Help Section of ActiveLearn Primary (in the top right-hand corner of the website) should you need it.

Please note: It is recommended that you use Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox web browsers with ActiveLearn. If you use Internet Explorer, please check you have at least IE9 in order for everything to work as it should.

If you have any further queries please make contact using teacher@bellsfm.bham.sch.uk or talk to Mrs Hill.

Kind regards,

Tammy Williams

Deputy Head Teacher