

Amesbury CE VC Primary School  
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Dear Parent/Carer,

## Welcome to Bug Club!

Our school has recently bought into the Bug Club reading scheme for KS2 (we already use it in KS1). We understand that some parents are unhappy with their child's allocated reading book. Below you will find key information about the scheme and how you can get involved. As with all new things there will be some teething problems as we settle into the new system and we appreciate your patience during this time of change.

### 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. We have previously tested your children's **comprehension** level against the book bands to ensure that they are reading at a level they can read both fluently, but fully understand what is happening in the text. Your child will have needed to have scored more than 80% to move onto the next book band. If they scored less, they are retested on a level below until they score the appropriate marks. This will help us to ensure that your child is not just developing their fluency in their reading, but their comprehension as well.

To make reading even more exciting for the children, there are online versions for every printed title and a personalised website for each child.

### Using the printed books

Inside every printed book there are notes to help you make the most of reading with your child.

**Inside front cover:** for younger children, these notes identify words with which children may need help and give ideas and strategies to help you feel confident that you know how best to help. For older children, the notes are intended to deepen each child's understanding of the book. They provide background information about the time or place the book was written or sometimes information about the author or illustrator. I highly recommend that you look at these before you read with your child so that you can both get the most out of each reading session at home.

**Inside back cover:** these notes suggest puzzles and challenges that help children think about their reading. These include 'Find it!' activities that encourage children to revisit the text; 'Share it!' tasks that may involve making or writing something, and other ideas that offer ideas for further reading.

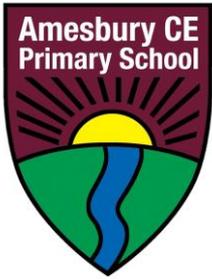
### Using the online reading world

If you have access to an internet connection, your child can enjoy reading **Bug Club** books online as well as in print. You can access the website on a computer, laptop or any apple or android device.

Each child has a unique homepage and can log into it by following these steps:

1. Go to [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk)
2. Enter the login details.
3. Your child's homepage will appear.





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## 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?

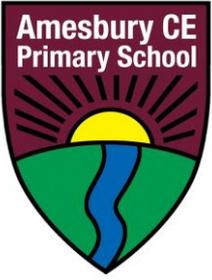
**While reading:** support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure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

**After reading:** talk about the book. 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.

## 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). We would like to offer a parent information session on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm in the old hall where we will talk through the Bug Club scheme and give you the opportunity to talk to staff about the books and how to support your child's reading. During our recent Ofsted inspection, reading was identified as an issue and we have been tasked to raise the





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standards within reading so that more children reach expected and greater depth at the end of Y6. Many children who are competent reader do not do well in Y6 SATs as they are not able to complete the comprehension part of the reading test. Bug Club and the activities that go along with the books will help with this. We look forward to seeing you on Monday and thank you once again for your patience as we develop this new reading system. Please return the slip to confirm your attendance.

Yours sincerely

Miss A. Jenkins

English Leader

✂.....



Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 @ 6pm

I will be attending the Bug Club information evening on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Name ..... Date .....

Child's name ..... Child's Class .....

