

RED WORDS AND READ AND HOLD A SENTENCE

Red Word lessons

English has 26 letters to make up 44 sounds. Many of these 44 sounds have multiple spellings. There are over 180 spellings that make up all the words in English. There are so many, that Ruth only put the most common ones on our Speed Sounds chart. She says that a spelling has to be *worth it* to make it onto the chart - in other words, you'll find it in lots of words.

Some common words contain a tricky spelling that hasn't made it onto the chart. We call these Red Words.

We identify the tricky letter/s for the children.

For example:

- In said, the tricky letters are 'ai' (the sensible letter would be 'e')
- In son, the tricky letter is 'o' (the sensible letter would be 'u')
- In your, the tricky letters are 'our' (the sensible letters would be 'or')

We need the children to read Red Words speedily, so they don't have to stop and think about them for long.

There are a few Red Words with an asterisk. This indicates that the word is only 'Red for a while.'

For example, 'he' becomes a Green Word once children know 'e' can represent ee.

Watch [Red Words lesson 1](#) if your children are reading Red, Green, Purple, Pink and Orange *Read Write Inc.* Storybooks. (Many children are able to read these in Reception.)

Watch [Red Words lesson 2](#) if your children are reading Yellow, Blue and Grey Storybooks. (Many children are able to read these in Y1.)

Read and Hold a Sentence lessons

Children practise reading and writing a sentence containing Green and Red Words they have been taught. These sentences come from our *Read Write Inc.* Storybooks.

Children read the sentence first. We then cover up the sentence before they write it.

We teach them to:

1. Remember ('hold') the sentence
2. Form letters correctly
3. Spell words correctly
4. Use punctuation correctly

Do make sure your child sits at a table with a pencil and paper to write the sentence.

Watch [Read and Hold a Sentence 1 lessons](#) if your children are:

- reading Green, Purple, Pink and Orange *Read Write Inc.* Storybooks
- reading and writing with Set 1 sounds confidently and learning Set 2 sounds.

Watch [Read and Hold a Sentence 2 lessons](#) if your children are:

- reading Yellow, Blue and Grey *Read Write Inc.* Storybooks
- reading and writing words with Set 2 sounds confidently and learning Set 3 sounds.