

The COVID-19 pandemic has been disruptive for all learners. With much time spent at home with limited access to high-quality phonics teaching and reading materials, students' phonics skills, reading fluency and comprehension skills have been negatively impacted and now need intensive support to ensure that they can 'catch up' with the curriculum.

# **Targeted academic support**

There are a wide range of evidence-based strategies that schools can implement to support recovery for all their students and to help bridge gaps in learning and understanding. These could include:

- Diagnostics to help target interventions and focus on a small number of learning goals
- One-to-one and small group interventions linked to in-class teaching and the curriculum to provide tailored support in a structured setting
- Homework and homework clubs to help students progress towards mastery of key learning objectives and to develop effective learning habits

The resources in this pack are intended to help teachers and teaching assistants deliver structured interventions and to provide targeted academic support for primary school students looking to build their confidence and skills in Mathematics.

#### Planning for recovery

One-to-one and small group structured interventions are very effective ways of improving student outcomes. They can be mediated by teachers, teaching assistants or other adults, and provide students with targeted support to reinforce in-class teaching and recover lost learning.

There is extensive suggested guidance for planning and delivering intervention sessions available via the Education Endowment Fund at <a href="https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/">https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/</a>.

For more information on recovery catch-up visit: pearsonschools.co.uk/recovery



### How Bug Club Phonics and Bug Club can help maximise catch-up

Bug Club Phonics is a full Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme which has a range of features to aid with the diagnosing of gaps in student's skills and knowledge and a full suite of strategies that can be tailored and adapted to support students in a one-to-one or small group intervention. Each individual Bug Club Phonics Lesson can be used to teach students new phonemes, and the range of matched reading texts can be used in school or at home to consolidate and practise the taught skills.

Bug Club is a comprehensive reading package that has a range of text types pitched at varying levels. They are fine tuned to phonics phase, year group and skill level to ensure that support can be provided to students at exactly their level. Each text has a range of comprehension questions embedded within which means that inference and deduction skills can be developed effectively, if being delivered by a teacher, teaching assistant or through consolidation with a parent.

### **Bug Club Phonics: An overview**

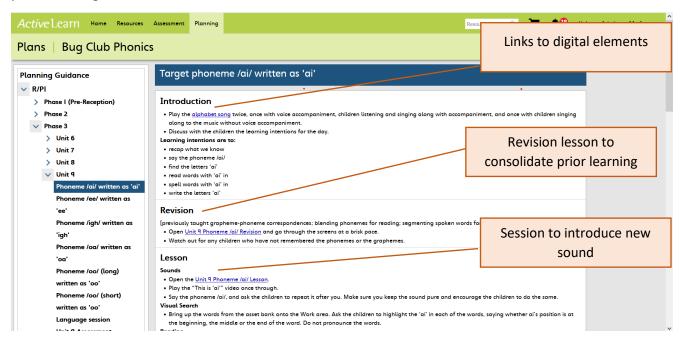
Bug Club Phonics is a DfE validated Systematic Synthetic Phonics scheme which provides a comprehensive phonics teaching programme centred around an accessible and inclusive teaching approach.

Every phonics book is available as an allocatable tablet-friendly ebook that can be accessed from home and includes audio narration to help with pronunciation and parent notes that can be personalised for every student.

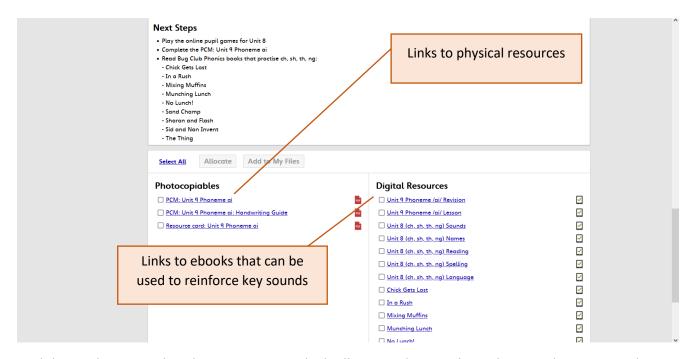
Teaching Resources and Support include everything you need to run the whole programme, from instructions and tips, to plans, assessment sheets, worksheets, photocopiables and much more.

Bug Club Phonics whole-class teaching software provides a series of lesson plans, supported by whiteboard resources, ebooks and games.

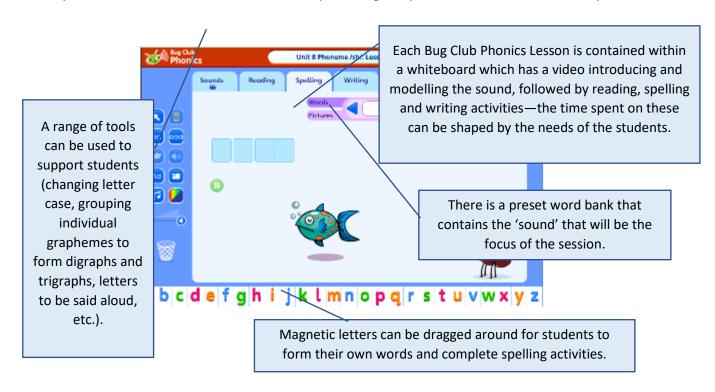
Every Bug Club Phonics session is linked to the phonics phase being taught and provides links to the interactive elements that can be utilised in the session or that can be used to consolidate new and prior learning







Each lesson begins with a short animation which allows students to hear the sound pronounced correctly and to see how each letter is formed, providing the perfect introduction to each phoneme.

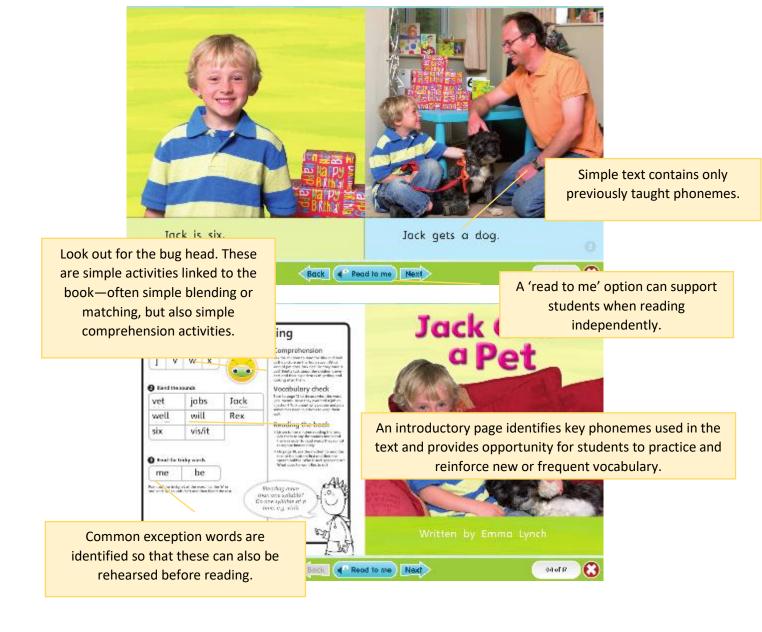


The structure of each session follows the recommended revisit, teach, practice, apply and review model, and through diagnostic assessment, students can start at the point that is most beneficial for them and their identified gaps.

As Bug Club Phonics is an approved DfE Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme, there are also a range of carefully graded and aligned reading books that can be used with students to complement the lesson being taught.

These can be used on tablets, laptops or desktop PCs. They can also be viewed on mobile devices if used as a follow-up or reinforcement activity at home.





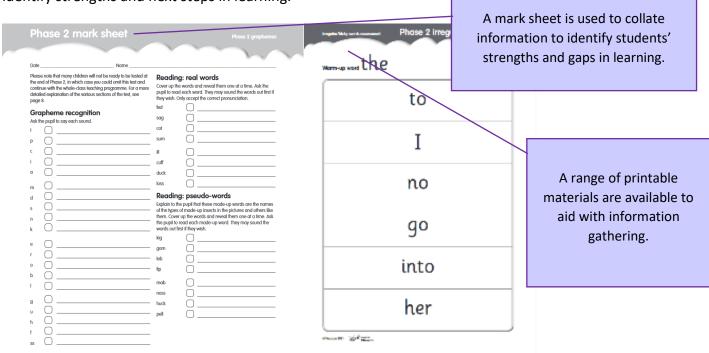


### **Delivering Bug Club Phonics**

To complement the taught phonics session, there are a range of phonics games that can be used to reinforce key skills of segmenting and blending. To support students with the Phonics Screening Check, there are also games that can be used to practice reading pseudo words.



To support with the first step in identifying gaps for students with their recovery, there are a range of materials that can be used to aid with the assessment of students and to gather information to identify strengths and next steps in learning.





### How might a Bug Club Phonics catch-up session look?

It is important that students' individual needs are identified and supported through the use of the materials. Following the structure provided by the EEF, we can diagnose using the diagnostic materials available to identify the starting point for each individual and make the gaps in skills known. We can then implement a carefully designed session with a clear follow-up through the use of ebooks and other materials, and then monitor through careful observation and assessment during and after sessions/sequence of sessions.

Bug Club Phonics can easily be delivered by a teaching assistant. The teaching session can be easily guided through, and with a small amount of training, the programme can be delivered effectively. Any adult with a staff account can access all the materials and can allocate texts to students. This means that the intervention can be fully owned by the member of staff delivering.

If students are using ebooks independently on a mobile device, training on logging in and navigating the book can be beneficial to provide a smooth session and independent consolidation at a later time.

Here is a suggested outline of how this might look.

Before the session: Diagnose	Use the mark sheet for the appropriate phonics phase to identify key gaps in students's recall of Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence (GPC) and to establish whether the student is able to blend and segment accurately—this can then be used to identify the correct starting place for the student.		
During the lesson:	Use Flashcards to revisit previous GPCs that will be necessary prior learning for the session. Use the Bug Club Phonics plan to identify the prior learning session—complete the reading activity.		
	Use the Bug Club Phonics Lesson for the sound that needs to be taught. If students are confident with blending, more time may be focussed on the segmenting (writing activity); if students need to consolidate blending, this should have the greater focus in the activity.		
	Consolidate—Use an ebook that is matched to the sound that the student is learning or previous sounds to consolidate and build confidence (these will be identified in the Bug Club Phonics planning area).		
	Alternatively, use a phonics game aligned to the content taught to consolidate learning.		
Follow up	Students can be allocated the same ebook to read at home alongside a new book to build confidence and further consolidate learning.		
Monitor	At the start of the next session, this taught sound should be consolidated through the revision session and through Flashcards of GPCs.		



Let's look at a specific example for a sound to be taught. This session is working on the principle of a one-to-one session. Suggestions for how it might be adapted for small groups have been identified at different parts of the lesson.

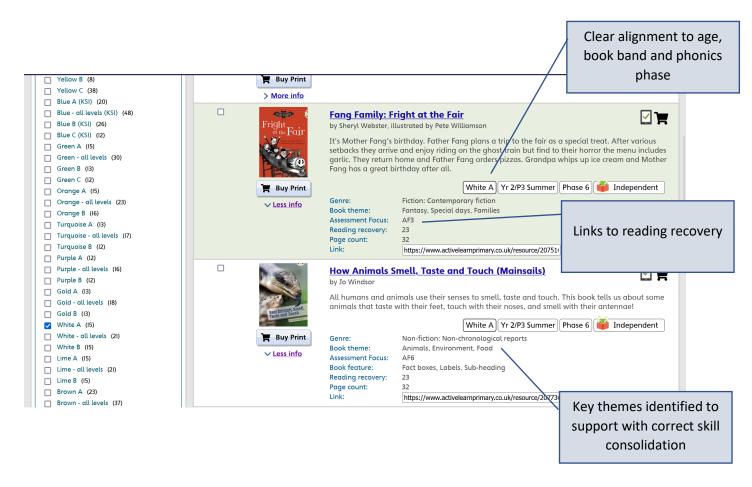
Before the session:	Using the Phase 3 marksheet, it is clear that the student is confident with all single sounds and sh, ch, th and ng sounds. The earliest gap identified is in the sound /ai/ and while the				
Diagnose		tudent can blend, they do not recognise the GPC for /ai/ and have trouble segmenting			
	words with the sound as they cannot recall it for spelling.				
During the lesson:	5 mins Use Flashcards to revisit previous GPCs that will be necessary prior leather the session. Use the Unit 9 phoneme /ai/ revision session, moving thro				
Implement		brisk pace.			
		For small groups, use choral blending and ask students to blend to their classmate so that you can listen and observe individual ability.			
	15	Teach the Unit 9 phoneme /ai/ session—use the video to introduce the sound			
	mins	and complete the blending activity. Focus on spelling and writing activities to aid with recall of the digraph /ai/.			
		For small groups, provide students with individual whiteboards so that individual understanding can be monitored during writing activities.			
	5 mins	As the student is familiar with the other sounds in Unit 9—play the Unit 9			
		assessment game.			
		For small groups, provide individual			
		GPC Flashcards for the five sounds,			
		or ask students to write the grapheme they think it is on their			
		individual whiteboards.			
Follow up	Allocate	the digital books			
	chick Gets Lost confiden	and to consolidate previously taught graphemes at home and build			
Monitor	At the start of the next session, this taught sound should be consolidated through the revision session and through Flashcards of GPCs.				



#### **Bug Club: An overview**

Bug Club is a reading programme to help you develop confident and motivated readers. It combines over 500 finely levelled books with interactive ebooks and an online reading world—so you can allocate books to individual students for home reading and assess their progress instantly.

Each book is carefully matched to the anticipated year group, book band, phonics phase (for Lime and below) reading recovery and aspects of the National Curriculum that it would support with.



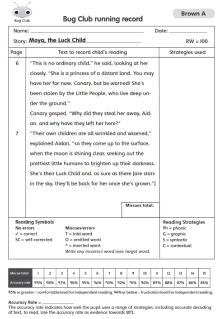
Bug Club books allow students to access books that are closely aligned to their needs and build confidence with reading fluency and comprehension skills.

The materials in Bug Club allow students to engage with high-quality texts with carefully crafted comprehension questions that are matched to the age phase of the reading material provided.

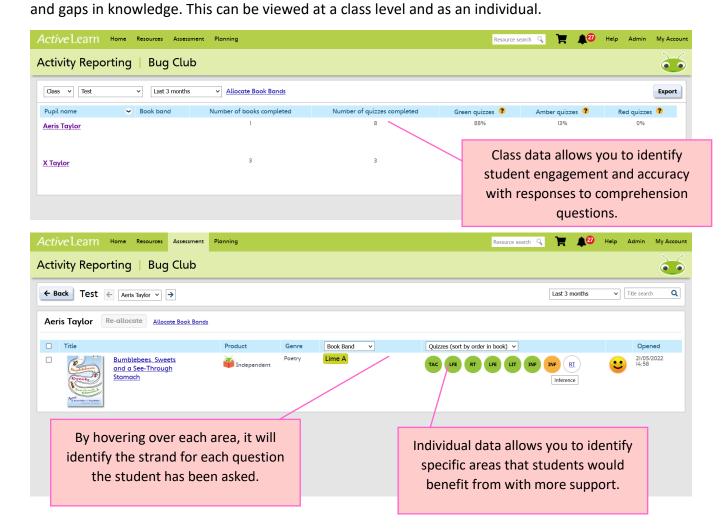


### **Delivering Bug Club**

Students' fluency can be diagnosed through the use of the running record (miscue analysis) available for each book band level. This can be used to identify whether this is an appropriate book band for the student and whether they will have a fluency level that would allow them to accurately comprehend what they are reading.



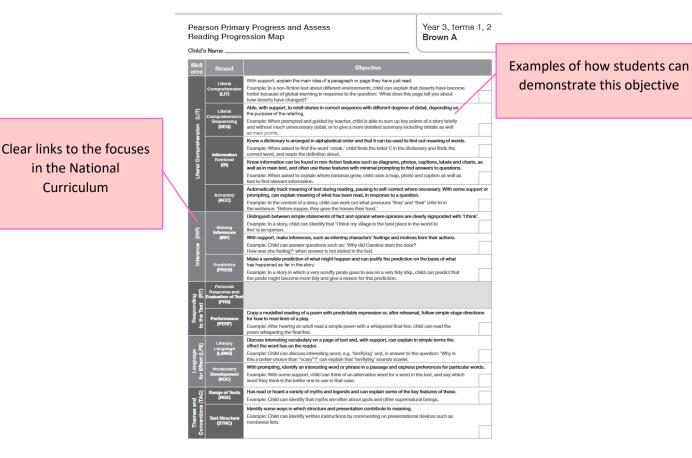
Bug Club allows for data to be viewed quickly for individuals and shows the detail of their strengths



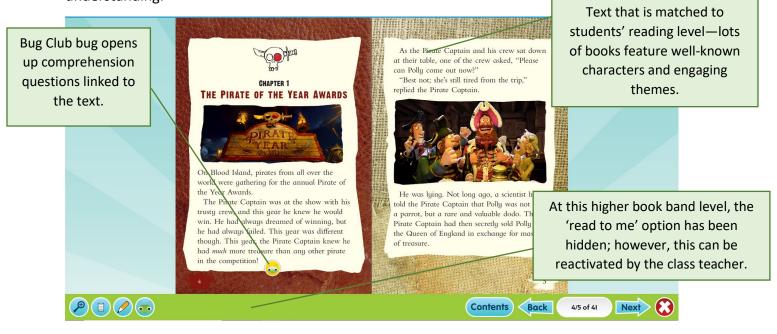


in the National Curriculum

The Progress and Assess Reading Progression map is an effective way to collate and monitor student progress against key areas of the National Curriculum. Utilising the codes from questions within the book evidence can be gathered against each skill area and strand.

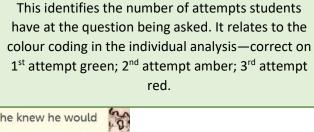


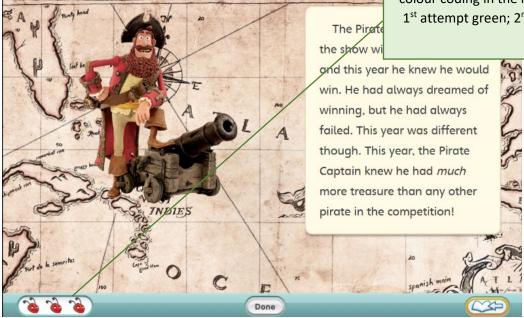
Each text in Bug Club is not only aligned to age/phonics phase/reading recovery for fluency and accessibility. Each text has comprehension questions throughout to check for students' understanding.





Which word shows that the Pirate Captain had a loyal crew? Click on one word.







### How might a Bug Club catch-up session look?

It is important that students' individual needs are identified and supported through the use of the materials. Following the structure provided by the EEF, we can diagnose using the running record to identify the correct book band for each individual. We can then implement a carefully designed session using the ebooks and then monitor through careful observation and assessment during and after sessions/sequence of sessions.

Here is a suggested outline of how this might look. This session is working on the principle of a one-to-one session. Suggestions for how it might be adapted for small groups have been identified at key points in the plan.

Before the session: Diagnose	Use the running record to establish the correct book band level for the student based on the accuracy of the miscue analysis.			
During the lesson: Implement	5 mins	key ideas or prior knowledge the student students to discuss classmates and sh	any For small groups, encourage	
	15 mins	Ask the students to read the book aloud to you as the teacher. Pause to check for understanding—check that student's fluency with the spanning of them to establish an understanding of the text.  Use Bug Club questions through the bug heads to check comprehension—allow the student to answer independently to gain an accurate understanding of their level of comprehension.	purage dently and aloud to ave their wer	
	5 mins	Ask the student to review the text and reflect on their own thoughts about the book—if the book has not been completed during the time, ask them to predict next steps.		
Follow up	Students can be allocated the same ebook to read at home alongside a new book at the same level (or the band below to build confidence) to further consolidate learning.			
Monitor	Use the data system embedded in Bug Club to monitor students' achievement in relation to the skill areas and strands.			

The extensive range of text types, familiar characters and style of ebook means that tapping into students' interests can be easily achieved. When planning a session, knowledge of the student can be hugely advantageous in allocating books that the student will readily engage with. If the student is engaged, they are more likely to be successful, and that success can help build confidence in reading which can help students make accelerated progress.

A specific Bug Club session may look like the example below.



Before the session: Diagnose	A year 5 student has been miscued using the running record, and their fluency rate has been identified as being at Grey A. There is a need for focus on developing inference skills so a narrative text has been chosen: <i>Dog Alert</i> . This text has also been chosen because the student has an interest in animals.			
During the lesson: Implement	mins are the dogs doing? Do the dogs look tame?			
	15 mins	As the text is quite long, it is unlikely the student will complete it in this session. Read Chapter 1 and complete the Bug Club questions as you go. At the end of the chapter, ask the student to predict what might happen next. Ask: How is Zoe feeling? Do you think she feels at home where she is?		
		Read Chapter 2 and complete the Bug Club activities. Check back on the predictions made at the end of Chapter 1 and ask the student: How does Zoe feel about dogs?  How does she feel about them now?		
	5 mins	Ask the student to make predictions about the next part of the story. Establish expectations for independent follow-up—read Chapters 3 and 4 at home and complete Bug Club activities.		
Follow up	Assign I	Dog Alert for the student to read at home/independently.		
	Also assign <i>Pet Finders</i> to support students with consolidating wider reading based on previous interests identified.			
Monitor	Use the data system embedded in Bug Club to monitor students' achievement in relation to the skill areas and strands.			



## **Delivering catch-up with Bug Club**

As a catch-up programme, Bug Club can easily be delivered by a teacher, teaching assistant, parent or accessed independently by students. The careful matching of the text levels to the student's stage of development and fluency, as well as the carefully planned comprehension questions embedded within the ebook, means that a highly effective intervention can be achieved with minimal training for staff. The monitoring of students' responses to questions through the class and individual tracking system means that areas of strength and further development can be quickly identified. If the session is to be delivered by an adult, it is beneficial for them to have engaged with the text first to ensure they can pre-plan some questions to develop understanding of the story and comprehension skills.