

Year 2

Working at the expected standard

The pupil can:

- read accurately most words of two or more syllables
- read most words containing common suffixes*
- read most common exception words*

In age-appropriate¹ books, the pupil can:

- read most words accurately without overt sounding and blending, and sufficiently fluently to allow them to focus on their understanding rather than on decoding individual words²
- sound out most unfamiliar words accurately, without undue hesitation

In a book they can already read fluently, the pupil can:

- check that it makes sense to them, correcting any inaccurate reading
- answer questions and make some inferences
- explain what has happened so far in what they have read

*Teachers should refer to the spelling appendix to the national curriculum (English Appendix 1) to exemplify the words that pupils should be able to read as well as spell.

¹Teachers should compare the books that their pupils read with those provided for the KS1 English reading test developed by the Standards and Testing Agency. The sources for the English reading test are listed in the copyright acknowledgements of the published KS1 test materials.

²Approximately 90 words per minute is a good indicator of when children start to read with sufficient fluency to focus on their understanding, but some pupils read more slowly than this while still being able to understand what they are reading.

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