

Aims of NC for English	All PM strands	PM fiction	PM non-fiction	PM poems and plays
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Read easily, fluently and with good understanding.	All PM strands give children opportunities to use their phonics skills; to develop their knowledge of high- frequency words and also to help learn words which are harder to decode. The slow introduction of new words helps children to read with confidence.	The PM fiction books are written using natural speech patterns and rhythms, making the stories easy to read. They cover concepts that children can understand and which support their skills in prediction and reasoning.		
Develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information.		The PM fiction strands will develop children's habit of reading widely and often because the stories hold children's interest through their well-shaped plots and range of narrative devices. There are a number of mini- series featuring the same identifiable characters which are attractive to children. The PM books also make links between some fiction and non-fiction books to help children's understanding of different topics.	The PM non-fiction strands will help the children become familiar with the features common to non-fiction texts. They are clearly presented, using photographs and illustrations to help children's understanding.	PM contains a variety of material: fiction, non-fiction, plays, traditional tales and poems.
Acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.	PM's carefully structured levels ensure children are successful at reading. Each level uses the same high- frequency words and, as the levels progress, more words are added. New words are introduced slowly by adding one word in every twenty. Clear sentence structures are used consistently and the language is related to children's experience of spoken English. As the levels progress, the sentence structures become more complex in line with the children's abilities.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

Reading in the National Curriculum	PM links		
Skilled word reading involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words.	PM is a finely levelled scheme which introduces new words slowly. In doing this, children are able to learn these words easily so that they then can recognise them quickly in subsequent books. The PM books also give opportunities to support the teaching of phonics. The PM scheme is linked to the Book Bands levels, so that teachers can easily use them in the classroom. The books are also structured using the reading recovery levels, making the books accessible to all abilities.		
Comprehension skills develop through pupils' experience of high-quality discussion with the teacher, as well as from reading and discussing a range of stories, poems and non-fiction	The PM scheme contains a variety of material: fiction, non-fiction, plays, and poems giving children a breadth of genres and text types. Within the PM range, there are plenty of opportunities to talk about the books.		
Reading widely and often increases pupils' vocabulary because they encounter words they rarely hear or see in everyday speech.	The PM scheme contains a variety of stories with recognisable characters that will appeal to children, as well as traditional stories, plays, poems and a range of non-fiction books which include a whole spectrum of topics. Most of these books contain specialised interest words allowing for variety in subject matter.		

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