



Fitzroy Phonics @ Kspace

The Fitzroy Method is a complete literacy programme. Starting with the first letters, it builds to total reading mastery. The approach is logical, step-by-step and easy to follow, and it uses a variety of teaching tools to guarantee both rapid and enjoyable reading progress.

At Kspace, using the hugely successful **Fitzroy (Phonic) Method** and Jolly Phonics as our foundation, we have created a reading and writing programme that works! We give the children in our kindergarten the very best chance to achieve greater results, better understanding of written English and confidence in their own abilities.



Fitzroy Phonic Readers

The unique Fitzroy programme comprises 70 precisely calibrated levels that takes students from their first letters all the way through to reading, writing and grammar mastery. This approach is covered within our kindergarten **Kspace** programme at the top level, known as Bugs.

Students can begin at any part of the programme and most will find an almost

immediate increase in their literacy skills.

There are 70 Readers in the Fitzroy Method. All of them are carefully graded to ensure smooth and stress-free reading success. Every Reader builds on the ones before it, and they progress step-by-step from the first letters right up to reading fluency.

Unlike some other 'readers' (programmes with reading books), all Fitzroy Phonics Readers are complete stories. This makes them fun to read and thus improves memory retention.

The **Fitzroy Readers** are a set of 70 story books that children read **for themselves**. The Readers take the young learner from simple sounding words like **cat** and **mat** (in the 1st story) through to words like **appreciative** and **consciousness** (in the final story) in 70 easy steps.



“Every time I want to play, Ben wants to play too. We have a ball. When I roll our ball, Ben catches it every time.”

Literacy at Kspace

Together with the Jolly Phonics scheme, other Kspace resources and Fitzroy teaching materials, we can provide the most systematic phonics course available. These Readers systematically introduce all basic letter sounds along with several essential special words. Children experience the joy of being able to read simple sentences with confidence and learn to love reading!



Super Bugs

Super Bug children generally have a good background and foundation in reading, achieved via the Kspace course or other schooling. They can read their alphabet and have worked through many of the principles taught in the Jolly Phonics course. In the first couple of weeks of their academic year they will be assessed by their teachers and then placed in the exclusive One-to-One Reading Scheme. This allows them personalized guidance and attention from our Reading Specialist each week. This private time together is very beneficial and we achieve great success through this programme. Children may begin on Book 1 of the Fitzroy scheme **or** be supplied with any book level that suits their needs best.

Special Features

The first Fitzroy Reader, 'A Fat Cat', uses only 13 letters. This makes it easy for small children to start reading without delay. The first five Readers each teach one basic vowel sound. Here the sound **i** is introduced. Repeated often, it is more

memorable. In Readers 1-10, special words like **I** and **have** are generally introduced one or two at a time. Combined with the basic letter sounds they will have children reading quickly. By Reader 10, children are already reading simple sentences with fluency.

By the very end of the Super Bugs Programme children may have achieved anything between books 20 and 40! The range of reading and topics that they cover is huge and they are very confident readers.

“Look out!” called the navigator suddenly. “There’s another ship coming our way! Turn!”



“Which way?” called Lord Hornblower. “Port or starboard?” “Port!” He heard the navigator and turned his boat just in time.

An example above - one of the later Readers for Super Bugs' Level.

Super Duper Bugs

Repeating a year in Super Bugs has become a very popular option. Parents want their children to continue to benefit from a small class atmosphere and a programme that embodies all the benefits of private tuition. Literacy units flow naturally on from the work that students cover in Super Bugs.

Each child begins with a book from the series that suits their needs.

Product Description:

Children who have reached this level of 'Readers' are often able to read simple fictional works, for instance chapter books and Choose Your Own Adventure stories etc. This is a great thrill for them.

At advanced levels, Readers occasionally teach up to three new sounds. This speeds up learning without overburdening the now competent reader. Due to the systematic structure of the programme, even more complex sentences are soon no problem. The special (i.e. sight) words work together with the spelling patterns learned. Together they help form a base from which children can 'decode' huge numbers of words - even ones they have never seen before.

In addition, some competent readers are given Kspace chapter books as an extra challenge. The homework sheets get quite demanding and most students need to spend two weeks on some of the books!

Children who complete all two years in the Super Bugs' course need to keep new goals in site constantly. We have adapted our material for them to include the very final set of Fitzroy Readers, so they have some inspiration and new titles to look



"This must be the most inconvenient puncture of all time," complained Jason. He felt angry and stupid at the same time. He was going to miss out on the search at Dark Water Creek. Just as he was sitting there, feeling sorry for himself, he noticed something that made him stop breathing!

An example of one of the later books in the term for fully competent Super Duper Bugs.

forward to. This final set of 'Readers' take students to total reading mastery. Children who have completed them find it easy to move on to a general literature, such as magazines, newspapers and novels. This level of Fitzroy Readers look a lot like an illustrated novel and are a great springboard for wider reading.

Why our method works:

- Proceeds in small, simple steps
- Logical and easy-to-follow
- Builds reading confidence
- Systematic and complete
- Uses multiple 'intelligences' to make learning fun and active
- Uses systematic phonics to teach all essential reading building blocks (e.g. letter sounds, digraphs ['ch', 'th', etc.], sight words & spelling rules)
- Has a proven track record with readers of all abilities and ages (3-13 years).
- Uses teachers trained in the Fitzroy Method

Children with Gifts & Challenges

The Bugs programme is particularly suited to both children who face challenges, or excel, when learning literacy. Although there are key benchmarks, there is no 'one size fits all' when it comes to teaching children academic subjects! For most of your child's school life they will be in large classes, full of students with many varying abilities. The three key stages of Bugs are designed to give all children a 'golden period' of schooling – when their needs, learning styles, gifts and challenges will be embraced and assisted at every turn.

Children who excel will normally be held back in larger schools. They can become bored and frustrated and eventually display negative behaviour as a result of lack of suitable challenges. In the Super Bugs and Super Duper Bugs years they will have the freedom to race ahead in their own time and cover territory that they cannot within mainstream schooling. They can share in depth discussions with their tutor and receive extra homework or more challenging additions to their holiday project work. Although their time for most subjects will be spent with the rest of the class, we have the flexibility to offer them private tutoring if requested (as an addition to the main programme) and plenty of feedback and recommendations.

Children who face challenges and are demotivated are often scared and can see no way out of the puzzles that their mind makes of what is on the page. Although we do not offer a 'special needs' support programme, we are capable of supporting children who need an alternative to the main Fitzroy higher-level Readers. Our

Seeing Stars programme is used widely by Lindamood-Bell centres across the world and can offer a bridge to get the children interested in reading, seeing results and more excited and hopeful about their future as a reader.



Background

It is important to make reading (both by the parent and by the child), looking at books and even just making up stories a regular practice. To support phonological awareness, rhyming books and songs are also encouraged. If we have holidays and breaks then we ask that parents continue to support our reading programme and follow recommendations at home, especially as in the early stages children may forget what they learn quite quickly.

At the beginning of term our teachers and specialist take a couple of weeks watching the children closely to grade them and get them into a classroom discipline where they know how to use books, return books and how to respect books. The students are also guided into a routine for their one-to-one lessons and quiet 'reading' alone. By the middle of term we will have ascertained fully the way that each individual child reads and what subjects really inspire him or her to learn.

In the holidays you will receive a recommended reading list and we also offer reading and literacy support programmes in our Winter/Summer School packages.

As the year progresses the books become longer and the children really need the reading specialist's allotted time of 20 minutes to 'get through' a book. The specialist pauses to talk about new vocabulary, vocabulary usage and correct pronunciation while constantly checking for full comprehension of the story and encouraging fluency of reading. Simply allowing children to read or 'decode' text without comprehension has very little purpose. Additionally, disjointed (non-fluent) reading can in turn disrupt comprehension. By ensuring that the child understands the meanings of words we boost her or his reading skills, reading speed and

growth of vocabulary. At the Super Bugs' stage we are also able to begin asking the students to think outside the story and make up other uses for words by placing them in new sentences.

Feedback

Each session also involves reading your comments (our parents') in the notebook. It is vital that you work with us and monitor the children's reading at home as this increases their chance of success. We ask that all feedback to the children is upbeat and positive, and that you show patience. We all know how hard it is to stop from jumping in and reading the words for the child, and it can be a frustrating process at home! Nonetheless, we strive to tailor the reading programme to each child's level so that each child is appropriately challenged. Some children are very eager to show off their skills and others do not wish to share reading time with mummy and daddy – it is not always easy and we appreciate that it's a long process. It helps us a great deal if you tell us your concerns and work in sync with the teacher. Parents are asked to:

- Work through the homework sheets, knowing that some weeks the workload may feel like too much and that it is OK to keep a worksheet for the following week.
- Read through multiple 'readers' books at home, multiple times.
- Write in the notebook comments, concerns or any observations you have made about your child's progress or areas of pleasure or difficulty. We also love to know insider info regarding book choices at home.
- Read the tutor's notes in the notebook about each week's session.
- Carry out the 'follow-up' that is advised for the week ahead.
- Remember that each individual has his or her own pace and it cannot be measured against other children, so the books they read and our observations are tailored to your family, and not to others.

Books

Books are loaned and then returned and are selected from a library of books that have been chosen for their excellent content.

Teacher-Parent Chats

Our specialist teacher is available to discuss each child's case with his or her parent, communicates with the head teacher(s), completes parent/teacher progress notebooks, carries out admin duties, prepares individualized homework sheets, and also spends exactly twenty minutes with each student.

We also offer face-to-face chats with parents, when scheduled through our office.

Highlights of Tspace's One-to-One Literacy Support Programme: Individualized Education

- 20 minutes per week of one-to-one literacy support
 - Pace of presenting readers tailored to individual child
 - Extra Readers for home reading
 - Homework tailored to individual child's needs
 - New and old phonics as well as high-frequency sight words presented (new, old and 'special' or tricky words)
 - Comprehension checked (answering in full sentences is strongly encouraged)
 - Fluency, Vocabulary and Pronunciation (natural cadence encouraged and unfamiliar words explained)
 - Parent/teacher communication and progress notebook (individualized comments and recommendations for home support)
 - Writing
 - Periodic phonics evaluation: Letter names and Letter sounds
 - Peer-reading Program: in the same spirit as England's Hay Festival in Hay-on-Wye, we want to promote a love of literature and writing by having the Super Bugs read stories to their younger Tspace peers on various occasions!
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Best thing you can do is READ to your child!

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Fitzroy Phonics @ Aspace

Now we have also designed special learning support workshops for our Aspace, After School classes. These sessions are designed to:

- Give our school children extra support
- Repeat important lessons to increase opportunities for success
- Allow children from other schools to enjoy the special Kspace approach
- Help ESL learners to break down some of the difficulties of reading English

We want all children to have a chance to make sense of reading!

We hope to enable competent and struggling students to gain better results, and make strong students outstanding ones.