*Active*Learn

Getting Started Guide

Getting started with Active Learn Primary

What is Active Learn Primary?

Active Learn Primary is an online learning world where you will find all of our online teaching and learning services. For teachers, it's a giant repository of teaching material, with in-depth planning, assessment and reporting built in. For children, it's where they can log in from the classroom and home to find allocated books, games and activities – and earn rewards as they go.

Getting started with Active Learn Primary

Active Learn Primary: www.activelearnprimary.co.uk

In order to help you get up and running, and acquainted with Active Learn Primary as quickly and efficiently as possible, we have created some very short 'how to' videos. There are support videos to give you an overview of how to use Active Learn Primary and more specific, product-related videos, for example to show you how to use our Bug Club reading programme.

Select from the products in this link to see product-specific overview videos, or see the below summaries of each product.

Select from the videos below for a generic overview of Active Learn Primary or click on this link to see all available videos and guidance:

- How to login in to Active Learn Primary [watch video]
- Overview of products available on Active Learn Primary [watch video]
- Overview of Classroom Support area [watch video]
- How to add teachers to Active Learn Primary so that they can use the resources [watch video]
- How to add pupils to Active Learn Primary so that they can use the resources [watch video]

Helpful guidance to send to parents/carers

Many parents and carers will be new to the world of online learning, so we have also created some short 'how to' videos to introduce them to Active Learn Primary. Please do send these links out to parents/carers as necessary.

- What is Active Learn Primary and how to log in [watch video]
- A quick tour of the pupil world [watch video]
- How do rewards work? [watch video]
- The grown-ups area [watch video]

Bug Club
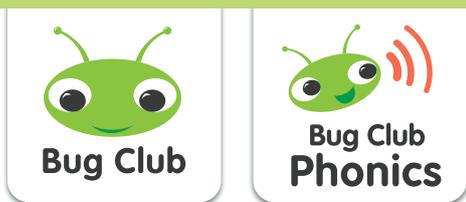
Bug Club Phonics

The Bug Club Family

The Bug Club family contains a suite of reading and teaching programmes for children aged 4-11. It covers all reading needs from early reading and phonics through to guided and independent reading, development of deeper text comprehension, and spelling, punctuation and grammar resources.

As well as a fantastic online reading world for children, Bug Club also contains a clever online toolkit for teachers. This includes access to all of the eBooks and activities as well as integrated assessment.

Find detailed guidance on how to set-up and use Bug Club in this document: Bug Club Getting Started Guide (PDF 3.27 MB)

Bug Club Phonics

Bug Club Phonics is based on a seven-year study in Clackmannanshire, UK, that's proven systematic phonics to be the most effective way to teach children to read.

Bug Club Phonics contains everything you need to teach synthetic phonics to your littlest learners. It is fast-paced – children start to read after learning just eight phonemes – and combines fun, 100% decodable books with BBC CBeebies videos and whole-class teaching software to give you a range of aural, visual and kinaesthetic phonic activities to appeal to all the children in your class.

You can:

- Search for and allocate resources (eBooks and activities) to classes, groups of children or individual children [watch video].
- Encourage parents to use the parental guidance notes on the inside front and back covers of the eBooks for an enhanced experience, and follow the audio instructions within each phonics game.
- Use the activity reporting area to see at a glance how each child performs on the embedded activities, whether they enjoyed their reading, and get insights into their progress [watch video].

Parents can:

- Learn all about Bug Club Phonics [watch video].
- Learn how to use the Bug Club Phonics eBooks and activities at home [watch video].
- Use the parental guidance notes on the inside front and back covers of the eBooks for an enhanced experience, and follow the audio instructions within each phonics game.

Bug Club

Bug Club for Guided Independent Reading (4-11)

Bug Club is an engaging, imaginative and finely levelled reading solution for your whole school. We have created some 'how to' videos to help you understand the product and enable you to start using it with your class at home.

All of the eBooks are levelled according to Letters and Sounds. They also all fit within traditional book band levels. This makes it easy for you to choose which level books to allocate to the children in your class for reading practice.

You can:

- Search for and allocate individual eBooks to classes, groups of children or individual children [watch video].
- Search for and allocate entire book bands of eBooks to classes, groups of children or individual children and sign up for notifications when children need more books [watch video].
- Encourage parents to use the parental guidance notes on the inside front and back covers of the eBooks for an enhanced learning experience for their child.
- Use the activity reporting area to see at a glance how each child performs on the embedded comprehension activities, whether they enjoyed their reading, and get insights into their progress [watch video].
- If you wish to teach remote Guided Reading lessons with small groups of children, perhaps via an online video chat service, you can do this with Bug Club. Each eBook has a linked guided reading card which you can work through with children over a number of days. The guided reading cards are available as links from each individual eBook within Active Learn Primary. Please note that you cannot currently allocate these for use by parents with children at home.

Bug Club KS2 Comprehension

Bug Club **Comprehension** is a fresh approach that helps every child master deep comprehension. It uses a powerful and proven talk-based, mastery approach to help children develop a deeper understanding of texts, regardless of decoding ability.

You can:

- Use the planning area and allocate resources to children [watch video].
- If you wish to teach remote Guided Reading lessons with your class, allocate eBooks to your class chapter by chapter. Then use the teaching cards for daily discussion.

For all Bug Club reading programmes, parents can:

- Learn all about Bug Club and the benefits of using it [watch video]
- Learn how to use the Bug Club eBooks [watch video].
- Use the parental guidance notes on the inside front and back covers of the eBooks for an enhanced learning experience for their child.

Grammar and Spelling Bug

Grammar and Spelling Bug is a completely online programme that brings spelling, grammar and punctuation lessons to life for children aged 5-11, and follows the national curriculum for England. There are comprehensive lesson plans, activities and assessments available at the click of a button.

Built to find the fun in learning grammar, punctuation and spelling, Grammar and Spelling Bug is bursting with online practice games and video tutorials that you can allocate to your class to help them master essential skills and continue their learning at home. Your children will time travel from Aztec to Victorian times completing exciting practice games again and again, learning key skills at every step without even knowing it!

You can:

- Learn all about Grammar and Spelling Bug and the benefits of using it [watch video]
- Find and allocate resources to your class [watch video]

Parents can:

- Access Grammar and Spelling Bug activities by navigating to the Grammar and Spelling Bug tab in the My Stuff section of the pupil world [watch video]
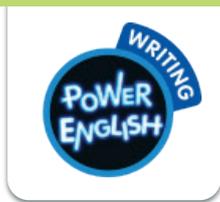
Power English: Writing (7-11)

Power English: Writing is a new, dynamic KS2 writing approach, which is genre-focused and encourages children to develop writing using their own interests and ideas. Using an evidence-based process which can be applied to all writing, Power English: Writing places a strong emphasis on creativity alongside the technical aspects of writing.

Resources available to you on Active Learn Primary are as follows:

- An interactive planner, containing lesson plans for individual writing projects along with lesson plans for grammar, punctuation and writing process mini-lessons.
- Allocatable, child-facing genre booklets which contain examples and explanations of genre con-ventions as well as helpful prompt questions and hints and tips for generating ideas for writing, drafting, revising, editing and publishing pieces of writing.
- Helpful checklists and planning grids which can be allocated to children.
- Videos from real-life authors discussing aspects of the genres in which they write.

You can:

- Use the interactive planner to access lesson plans for individual writing projects and mini-lessons. These lesson plans are especially helpful if you wish to teach online writing lessons with your class.
- Learn about the different resources available within Power English: Writing and allocate them to children in your class based on which writing project you would like them to undertake [watch video]
- Choose a genre you would like your class to focus on, for example fairy tales, and allocate genre booklets to the children to help them create their own fairy tales at home.

Parents can:

- Access Power English: Writing resources by navigating to the Power English: Writing tab in the My Stuff section of the pupil world [watch video]

Wordsmith

Wordsmith is a digital programme for reading comprehension, speaking and listening, grammar and writing, designed to help every child progress. It brings together everything you need to plan, allocate and assess all in one place and includes units on fiction, non-fiction and poetry with detailed, editable lesson plans, resources and e-books.

You can:

- Allocate resources to a child to look at or work on from home [watch video]
- Find detailed guidance on how to use Wordsmith in this document: Wordsmith Getting Started Guide (PDF 1.43 MB).
- Fiction texts: Try allocating a chapter a week to your students. Look at some of the ideas suggested in the planning or just think of a couple of questions that will encourage them to think about what they have read. For younger students consider getting them to draw pictures, design posters or draw mind maps rather than writing their responses.
- Non-fiction texts: These are interactive eBooks that encourage students to explore a 'Big Question' in an exciting and dynamic way. Each non-fiction eBook sets out to answer a big question, e.g. in the Year 2 eBook called All About Orang-utans, the students explore the Big Question: Could you keep an orang-utan as a pet? Having explored the eBook, which includes videos and animations, the intention is that they will then have the necessary knowledge to make an informed decision. If you have time, take a look at the planning, which accompanies each book, for suggestion questions, written tasks and challenges. If you prefer not to follow the planning, consider asking the children to keep a log or record (in any format they like) of those facts which they found interesting and didn't know before. Could those who have access to an iPhone do a 2-3 min recording of what they liked most about their favourite book? Could these be emailed to you and uploaded to your school website?
- Poetry: Allocate an age appropriate poem to either be learned off by heart or illustrated. The accompanying lesson plans include lots of suggested activities and links to interactive teaching pages: videos, audio files, drag and drop activities and short compositions. Try using the search facility to look for a favourite author, such as Michael Rosen, and allocating the poem and the video of Michael reading the poem, to your students. Set them the challenge of learning this off by heart, to be delivered with as much expression as Michael. Search for I'm the Youngest in Our House as an example of a poem being read by Michael.

Parents can:

- Access Wordsmith resources by navigating to the Wordsmith tab in the My Stuff section of the pupil world [watch video].
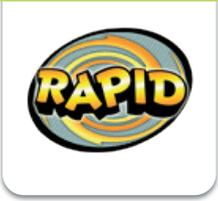
The Rapid Family

The Rapid Family is a complete reading, writing and maths solution that is perfect for English Language learners. It consists of an online reading world for children where they can access carefully-levelled eBooks allocated to them by their teacher, as well as a reporting area to help teachers monitor each pupil's progress remotely.

Rapid Phonics

Rapid Phonics is based on the successful Sound Discovery phonics catch up programme, and it has been proven in independent studies to help children make accelerated progress in reading and spelling.

Rapid Phonics online programme contains a set of fully decodable eBooks that follow the Rapid Phonics progression.

Printed books, printed Teaching Guides, phonics flashcards and a phonics wall chart are all available to purchase separately.

You can:

- Search for and allocate eBooks to groups of children or individual children [watch video].
- Encourage parents to help their child practise the key sounds in the book using the activity at the beginning of each book.
- Encourage pupils to click on the Rapid Boy or Rapid Girl icons when they appear in the book and follow the audio instructions to complete the activities within the eBooks.
- Use the reporting area to see at a glance how each child performs on the embedded activities, whether they have finished the book, and get insights into their progress [watch video].
- Learn all about Rapid [watch video].

Parents can:

- Learn how to use the Rapid Phonics eBooks and activities at home [watch video]
- Use the first activity within each book to help their child practise the key sounds they will meet in the book.
- Encourage their child to read aloud.
- Give their child plenty of praise and encouragement to build their confidence.

Rapid Reading

Rapid Reading has been proven to help children to make accelerated progress in their word reading and comprehension skills.

Rapid Reading online consists of hundreds of eBooks that are all carefully levelled and matched to children's reading age. The books include fiction and non-fiction texts and cover a range of high-interest topics that will engage even the most reluctant readers. Each eBook includes interactive activities that help children build their word-reading, spelling and comprehension skills.

Printed books and printed Teaching Guides are available to purchase separately.

Find detailed guidance on how to set-up and use Rapid in this document: Rapid Getting Started Guide (PDF 16.6 MB)

You can:

- Search for and allocate eBooks to groups of children or individual children [watch video].
- Encourage parents to go through the 'Before Reading' page of each eBook with their child before beginning the book, although full audio support is included for children who need to access the eBook independently.
- Encourage pupils to click on the Rapid Boy or Rapid Girl icons when they appear in the book and follow the audio instructions to complete the activities within the eBooks.
- Use the activity reporting area to see at a glance how each child performs on the embedded activities, whether they have finished the book, and get insights into their progress [watch video].
- Learn all about Rapid [watch video].

Parents can:

- Learn how to use the Rapid Reading eBooks and activities at home [watch video].
- Use the 'Before reading' page of each book to ensure their child has the confidence they need to begin reading.
- Encourage their child to read aloud and to complete the activities within each eBook.
- Give their child plenty of praise and encouragement to build their confidence

Power Maths

Power Maths is a mastery programme designed to spark curiosity and excitement in maths. It is recommended by the Department for Education in England and is fully aligned with the White Rose Maths schemes of work, having been developed in partnership.

To help teachers set work for children during school closures, we have added free Power Maths content to the Active Learn Secondary website including Textbooks and Practice Book units. Parents/children can access the content via links without signing in. If you are a current Power Maths user, your school will have received an email providing the links.

If you do not use Power Maths already, you can get access to the links by completing the form here.

These 'how to' videos explain how to access and use the content:

- For teachers
- For parents and carers
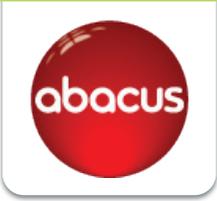
Abacus

Abacus is a maths scheme for children from Reception to Year 6 (ages 4-11). It has been built by a team of expert authors and teachers to inspire a genuine love of maths and help every child master mathematical concepts. It is written for the primary national curriculum in England and has been built with the outcome of Mastery in mind.

Abacus is built around a spiral curriculum so children have the opportunity to revise and practise what they have learnt throughout the year.

The planning area contains Long-term, Medium-term, Weekly and Daily plans, which you can export to Word and edit to suit your class.

As well as plans, it contains hundreds of resources that you can allocate to the children in your class for practising core skills and improving fluency. For example, there are fun interactive games and pupil videos [watch video], homework sheets and practice powerpoints

Find detailed guidance on how to set-up and use Abacus in this document: Abacus Getting Started Guide (PDF 5.29 MB)

You can:

- Use the planning area to access plans [watch video]
- Search for and allocate resources to children in your class [watch video]
- Access individual pages from the textbooks (KS2) and workbooks (KS1) in the Resources area
- If you are teaching maths lessons remotely, there are links in the plans (online and in Word) to resources relevant to the lessons, such as tools, practice powerpoints and resource sheets. You may want to allocate these to your class in advance of your lesson.

Parents can:

- Learn all about Abacus [watch video]
- Play allocated activities with their children, especially the 414 Talking and Listening activities.

Science Bug International

Science Bug International is a challenging and complete curriculum programme from
Year 1 to Year 6 (5-11). It contains:

- Inspiring plans, hands-on activities, videos, animations and fun activities that children will love.
- Detailed support and guidance for every aspect of the UK curriculum ensure retention and mastery of the curriculum standards.
- assessment opportunities to help you assess children's progress and attainment goals.

You can:

- Learn about the product and start using it with your class at home.
- Get an overview of the Science Bug planning area [watch video].

Parents can:

- Access allocated resources in the Pupil World [watch video].