



# Decodable Reading Books



Dear Parents,

We are excited that your children will be learning to read with the PLD Decodable Reading Books. This letter provides information about our reading books and the process of learning to read.

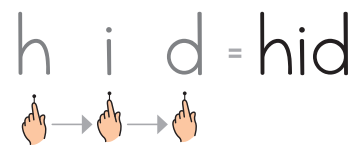
## What are decodable reading books?

Decodable reading books are written for beginning readers. They are crafted to give your children practise reading the letter sounds they have been learning at school but in the fun form of a story!

The stories only contain the letter sounds your child is familiar with, along with a few tricky words we call “Heart Words”, such as “the” and “said”. This way, children can proudly read on their own, blending sounds to form words. Our books start simple and gradually progress in complexity as your child’s phonics knowledge expands.

## Why are decodable reading books preferable to other reading books?

Unlike other reading books that encourage children to guess from pictures or memorise repetitive sentences, decodable reading books focus on teaching your child to read words by sounding them out. This approach builds stronger reading and spelling skills in children.



## How are the PLD Decodable Reading Book sets organised?

PLD Decodable Reading Books are aligned with PLD’s learning sequence, and present concepts in a carefully sequenced manner.

Some words don’t follow the usual rules of sounding out and these words are needed to make sentences flow. We call these “Heart Words”. They are common words your child will often see such as ‘I’, ‘the’, and ‘said’. Our books introduce these gradually to help make reading smoother.

Set 1	s a t p i n	♥ a I	Up to 30 words
Set 2	c h e r m d	♥ the is	Up to 60 words
Set 3	g o u l f b	♥ has his is as of	Up to 100 words
Set 4	w j v k z y	♥ was for	Up to 120 words
Set 5	ck sh ch th oo ee qu wh x	♥ me be we she he	Up to 150 words
Set 6	CCVC CVCC CCVCC CCCVC	♥ to do who into are	Up to 200 words

## Tips for reading at home

- **Make it a routine:** Reading can be a cosy part of your day, maybe at bedtime or can be pitched as special time spent together with your child.
- **Keep it light and fun:** Encourage your child’s efforts and celebrate their progress, without pressure.
- **Little but often:** Short, daily reading sessions are more beneficial than one long session a week. If a whole book feels too much, just a few pages each day can do wonders.
- **Create a language-rich environment:** Engage in daily parent-led storytime to immerse your child in a world of rich vocabulary and complex sentence structures. Encourage lots of talking together and keep screen time to a minimum. Strong vocabulary and oral language skills are linked to future literacy success.

If you would like to find out more about how to support your child in the home and with learning [click here](https://pld-literacy.org/parent-education-resources/) or go to <https://pld-literacy.org/parent-education-resources/> for videos and downloads.

Kind regards,

The team at PLD