

# English Key Vocabulary

## Glossary of terms used in reading and writing

Nursery vocabulary is highlighted in pink.

| EYFS           |                                                                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author         | The writer of a book or poem.                                                 |
| Blurb          | The short text on the back of a book, explaining what it is about.            |
| Caption        | A short explanation underneath a picture or diagram.                          |
| Character      | A person or figure within a story.                                            |
| Contents page  | A list at the front of a non-fiction book detailing the chapters in the book. |
| Cover          | The front part of a book.                                                     |
| Fact           | A statement that is true.                                                     |
| Fiction        | A piece of writing which describes imaginary people and/or events.            |
| Guided reading | Reading the same book with a small group of children, led by an adult.        |
| Illustrator    | The person who draws the pictures for a book or poem.                         |
| Instructions   | A non-fiction text which tells you how to complete a task.                    |
| Label          | A word used to say what something is or a feature of it.                      |
| List           | A number of connected items or names written one below the other.             |
| Non-fiction    | Fact based, not made up.                                                      |
| Picture        | A painting or drawing.                                                        |

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| Poem             | A collection of words or ideas that express ideas or emotions.                                                              |
| Prediction       | Using evidence from a text to say what may happen next, what events may unfold or how a character may behave.               |
| Rhyme / rhyming  | Words that have the same end sound. For example, dog, log, bog.                                                             |
| Sequence         | The order of events.                                                                                                        |
| Setting          | The place where a story takes place.                                                                                        |
| Speech bubble    | An outline containing words that represent a character's speech.                                                            |
| Story            | An account of imaginary or real people and events told for entertainment.                                                   |
| Story map        | A method to plot out a story using pictures and / or words.                                                                 |
| Title            | The name of a book.                                                                                                         |
| Traditional tale | A story that has been told for many years and most people know. For example, 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Three Little Pigs'. |

# English Key Vocabulary

## Glossary of terms used in reading and writing

| Year 1           |                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alliteration     | Words that start with the same sound. For example, colourful creeping caterpillar.                                                                                                            |
| Author           | The writer of a book or poem.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Blurb            | The short text on the back of a book, explaining what it is about.                                                                                                                            |
| Caption          | A short explanation underneath a picture or diagram.                                                                                                                                          |
| Character        | A person or figure within a story.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Comprehension    | The understanding of what has been read.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Contents page    | A list at the front of a non-fiction book detailing the chapters in the book.                                                                                                                 |
| Cover            | The front part of a book.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Creative writing | Story writing.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Edit             | To make a change or correction to a piece of work.                                                                                                                                            |
| Explanation      | A piece of non-fiction writing which describes a process, such as how something works. Usually written in the present tense, and may have bullet points, numbers and/or pictures or diagrams. |
| Fact             | A statement that is true.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Fairy story      | A tale about magical and imaginary beings and lands.                                                                                                                                          |
| Fiction          | A piece of writing which describes imaginary people and/or events.                                                                                                                            |
| Glossary         | A list of words and definitions found at the back of a non-fiction book.                                                                                                                      |

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|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Guided reading   | Reading the same book with a small group of children, led by an adult.                                                                                                                         |
| Illustrator      | The person who draws the pictures for a book or poem.                                                                                                                                          |
| Index            | An alphabetical list of names or subjects found at the back of a non-fiction book, with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned.                                                    |
| Information text | A non-fiction text which gives information on a particular subject. Sometimes called a non-chronological report as it gives information without referring to the order in which things happen. |
| Instruction text | A non-fiction text which tells you how to complete a task.                                                                                                                                     |
| Label            | A word used to say what something is or a feature of it.                                                                                                                                       |
| List             | A number of connected items or names written one below the other.                                                                                                                              |
| Non-fiction      | Fact based, not made up.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Picture          | A painting or drawing.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Plot             | The main events of a piece of fiction.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Poem             | A collection of words or ideas that express ideas or emotions.                                                                                                                                 |
| Prediction       | Using evidence from a text to say what may happen next, what events may unfold or how a character may behave.                                                                                  |
| Proofreading     | Checking a piece of writing to make improvements and correct errors.                                                                                                                           |
| Recount          | A piece of writing which retells events that have previously occurred. Examples include diaries, newspapers, reports and letters.                                                              |
| Rhyme / rhyming  | Words that have the same end sound. For example, dog, log, bog.                                                                                                                                |
| Sequence         | The order of events.                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| Setting          | The place where a story takes place.                                                                                        |
| Speech bubble    | An outline containing words that represent a character's speech.                                                            |
| Story            | An account of imaginary or real people and events told for entertainment.                                                   |
| Story map        | A method to plot out a story using pictures and / or words.                                                                 |
| Title            | The name of a book.                                                                                                         |
| Traditional tale | A story that has been told for many years and most people know. For example, 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Three Little Pigs'. |
| Word bank        | A list of useful topic vocabulary.                                                                                          |

# English Key Vocabulary

## Glossary of terms used in reading and writing

| Year 2                   |                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alliteration             | Words that start with the same sound. For example, colourful creeping caterpillar.                                                 |
| Author                   | The writer of a book or poem.                                                                                                      |
| Blurb                    | The short text on the back of a book, explaining what it is about.                                                                 |
| Bullet points            | An organisational device that uses small dots or symbols to indicate separate items in a list or separate sentences or paragraphs. |
| Caption                  | A short explanation underneath a picture or diagram.                                                                               |
| Chapter                  | A main division of a book, sometimes numbered or with a title.                                                                     |
| Character                | A person or figure within a story.                                                                                                 |
| Comprehension            | The understanding of what has been read.                                                                                           |
| Contents page            | A list at the front of a non-fiction book detailing the chapters in the book.                                                      |
| Cover                    | The front part of a book.                                                                                                          |
| Creative writing         | Story writing.                                                                                                                     |
| Definition               | The meaning of a word.                                                                                                             |
| Dialogue / direct speech | A conversation or speech that is written down as part of a piece of narrative text.                                                |
| Dictionary               | A resource that lists the words of a language and their meanings in alphabetical order.                                            |
| Edit                     | To make a change or correction to a piece of work.                                                                                 |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Effect                                                    | The impact of a piece of writing or a literary device (for example, alliteration) on the reader. How the writing makes the reader feel, think or react.                                                            |
| Explanation text                                          | A piece of non-fiction writing which describes a process, such as how something works. Usually written in the present tense, and may have bullet points, numbers and/or pictures or diagrams.                      |
| Fact                                                      | A statement that is true.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Fairy story                                               | A tale about magical and imaginary beings and lands.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Fiction                                                   | A piece of writing which describes imaginary people and/or events.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Glossary                                                  | A list of words and definitions found at the back of a non-fiction book.                                                                                                                                           |
| Guided reading                                            | Reading the same book with a small group of children, led by an adult.                                                                                                                                             |
| Heading                                                   | The title of a piece of writing, usually used for non-fiction, which may then be broken down further using sub-headings.                                                                                           |
| Illustrator                                               | The person who draws the pictures for a book or poem.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Imagery                                                   | Words used in writing which create a strong effect in the reader's mind by appealing to one or more of the five senses.                                                                                            |
| Index                                                     | An alphabetical list of names or subjects found at the back of a non-fiction book, with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned.                                                                        |
| Inference                                                 | Part of reading comprehension. Reaching a conclusion based on evidence. For example, 'I think Goldilocks is naughty because she goes into the Three Bears' house and eats their porridge when they are not there.' |
| Information text (non-fiction / non-chronological report) | A non-fiction text which gives information on a particular subject. Sometimes called a non-chronological report as it gives information without referring to the order in which things happen.                     |
| Instruction text                                          | A non-fiction text which tells you how to complete a task.                                                                                                                                                         |

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|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Intonation        | Varying the tone of voice when reading a text aloud in order to make the text interesting for the listener. A good sign that a child is becoming a fluent reader. |
| Label             | A word used to say what something is or a feature of it.                                                                                                          |
| List              | A number of connected items or names written one below the other.                                                                                                 |
| Narrative writing | Writing a story or an account of events.                                                                                                                          |
| Non-fiction       | Fact based, not made up.                                                                                                                                          |
| Onomatopoeia      | Words which describe a sound, but also sound like the sound they describe. For example, 'buzz', 'woof', 'boom'.                                                   |
| Picture           | A painting or drawing.                                                                                                                                            |
| Plot              | The main events of a piece of fiction.                                                                                                                            |
| Poem / poetry     | A collection of words or ideas that express ideas or emotions.                                                                                                    |
| Prediction        | Using evidence from a text to say what may happen next, what events may unfold or how a character may behave.                                                     |
| Proofreading      | Checking a piece of writing to make improvements and correct errors.                                                                                              |
| Recount           | A piece of writing which retells events that have previously occurred. Examples include diaries, newspapers, reports and letters.                                 |
| Rhyme / rhyming   | Words that have the same end sound. For example, dog, log, bog.                                                                                                   |
| Sequence          | The order of events.                                                                                                                                              |
| Setting           | The place where a story takes place.                                                                                                                              |
| Speech bubble     | An outline containing words that represent a character's speech.                                                                                                  |
| Story             | An account of imaginary or real people and events told for entertainment.                                                                                         |



|                      |                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Story map / mountain | A method to plot out a story using pictures and / or words.                                                                 |
| Summarising          | A summary of the content of a piece of writing.                                                                             |
| Text                 | A piece of writing.                                                                                                         |
| Title                | The name of a book.                                                                                                         |
| Traditional tale     | A story that has been told for many years and most people know. For example, 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Three Little Pigs'. |
| Word bank            | A list of useful topic vocabulary.                                                                                          |