

# Help your child with the Actiphons Phonics Boot Camps

Actiphons is an energetic phonics series for children who are learning to read.

You can use these Actiphons reward charts to set up a fun phonics 'boot camp' for your child during school holidays. There are two types of boot camp – a one-week version, which is ideal for use during half-terms, or Christmas and Easter holidays, and a six-week version, which will take your child through the long summer holidays.

The Actiphons series is available as individual books or in handy box sets. Each book contains a fun story and simple activities and tips to really give your child the chance to focus on using their phonics. You'll be amazed at how much your child can improve their reading in a short space of time.

## One week

Before the week starts, talk to your child about the challenge. Explain that just for this week, you'd like them to read a different book every day. If you think your child will find that too challenging, it could be a book every two days, or another goal that you set together.

Agree on some rewards to keep your child motivated – maybe a small treat or reward when they complete all seven books. Write the promised reward on the chart, along with your child's name.

Then select the books for the challenge. If your child is already using the Actiphons books, you could begin with the next book in the sequence. If your child is new to Actiphons, you can use the **Get Set!** entry test to help you find the right starting point in the series for your child.

You could either write all the book titles on the chart in advance, or add each title as your child finishes the previous book. Let your child tick off each book as they complete it. Remind them about the reward at the end!



## Six weeks

Before the boot camp starts, explain to your child that you're setting up a fun challenge to help them zoom ahead with their reading. Look at the six-week reward chart together and set a goal that you think is achievable. It could be to read five books a week, or if that feels too challenging, you could focus on two or three books a week, or another goal that you set together.

Agree on some rewards to keep your child motivated – maybe a small treat or reward each week and something more substantial if they keep it up for the whole six weeks. Write the promised rewards on the chart, along with your child's name.

Then select the books for the challenge. If your child is already reading the Actiphons books, you could begin with the next book in the sequence. If your child is new to Actiphons, you can use the **Get Set!** entry test to help you find the right starting point in the series for your child.

You could either write all the book titles on the chart in advance, or add each title as your child finishes the previous book. Let your child tick off each book as they complete it. Remind them about the weekly treats and the reward at the end!



Spread taken from *Clair Air*



## Tips for having fun and staying motivated

Your child will learn best when they're having fun, so here are some ideas to help you keep the reading challenge enjoyable and achievable for both of you!

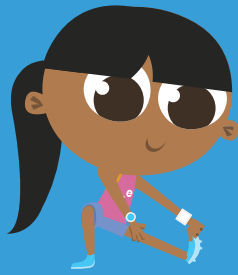
- Keep reading sessions short and manageable. There's a lot to think about when you're learning to read, and it can be tiring. If your child seems tired or demotivated, stop the session and change the activity. You can always come back to reading later!
- Be guided by your child. You might set a goal to start with, but then find that your child is struggling to keep up the pace. If that happens, change the goal to something more achievable. With an achievable goal, your child will still be learning, but with less stress and more motivation.
- Read with your child, and help them sound out and blend words if they get stuck. Your child will benefit from sharing the reading with you – it gives them a chance to hear what fluent reading sounds like, and they'll be better able to copy the way you read with expression. Even with the later Actiphons books, it's still a good idea to take turns with the reading. It makes the session more fun, too!
- Talk about the books with your child and do the activities together. Discussing the story adds to the fun and is a brilliant way of improving your child's comprehension skills!
- Keep praising your child for all the effort they are putting into reading. Even if their progress seems slow, remember that they're learning every time they use their phonics. By praising their efforts, you will be helping them to value reading and feel proud of themselves, too.
- Don't forget to keep active! You could alternate a short reading session with a walk, a game outdoors, a trip to the park or a quick dance to your child's favourite music. Varying the activities will help your child enjoy their learning.





# Boot Camp

## One-week reward chart



Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

When I have read all 7 books, I will . . .

\_\_\_\_\_.

Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_



Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_



Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_



Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_



Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_



Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_



Book



Title of book:

\_\_\_\_\_





# Boot Camp

## Six-week reward chart



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

When I have read 5 books, I will . . .

When I have read  books, I will . . .

### Week 1

Title of book 1:



Title of book 2:



Title of book 3:



Title of book 4:



Title of book 5:



### Week 2

Title of book 1:



Title of book 2:



Title of book 3:



Title of book 4:



Title of book 5:



### Week 3

Title of book 1:



Title of book 2:



Title of book 3:

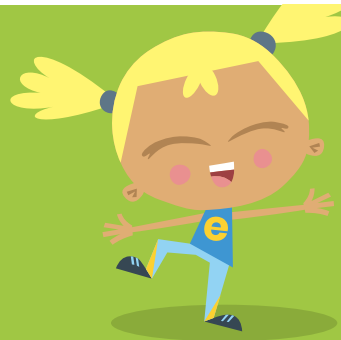


Title of book 4:



Title of book 5:





When I have read  books, I will ...

\_\_\_\_\_.

When I have read  books, I will ...

\_\_\_\_\_.

When I have read  books, I will ...

\_\_\_\_\_.

## Week 4

Title of book 1:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 2:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 3:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 4:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 5:

\_\_\_\_\_



## Week 5

Title of book 1:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 2:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 3:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 4:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 5:

\_\_\_\_\_



## Week 6

Title of book 1:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 2:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 3:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 4:

\_\_\_\_\_



Title of book 5:

\_\_\_\_\_

