


# How does Read It Yourself compare to Key Words?

Both Read It Yourself and Key Words share the same purpose: to help children to learn to read the most common and therefore most useful words in the English language.

In order to be able to read fluently, need to be able to read these words at a glance.

As the two series are both carefully designed to embed the most useful words within an enjoyable and motivating reading experience, there is considerable overlap between the words that children will learn from each of them. Reading books from either series will help children to read books from the other. Each will also support children to become fluent readers who can go on to read any book they choose.

Age Range	Book band	Read It Yourself		
4 years+	<div data-bbox="331 622 612 674">Book Band 0 Lilac</div> <div data-bbox="331 772 612 824">Book Band 1 Pink</div> <div data-bbox="331 922 612 974">Book Band 2 Red</div> <div data-bbox="331 1003 612 1055">Book Band 3 Yellow</div> <div data-bbox="331 1077 612 1128">Book Band 4 Blue</div>	<b>Level 0 Beginner Reader</b>	Steps 1-12 to be read in order, following Letters & Sounds Phases 2-5.  Total words: Step 1: initial letter sounds Step 2: 35-40 Step 3: 60-70 Step 4: 100-110 Step 5: 100-125 Step 6: 100-125 Step 7: 100-125 Step 8: 100-125 Step 9: 125-150 Step 10: 135-160 Step 11: 135- 160 Step 12: 135-160	<div data-bbox="1177 1025 1469 1077"><b>Level 1</b> Total words: 100-150 New key words: 14</div> <div data-bbox="1177 1093 1469 1144"><b>Level 2</b> Total words: 150-200 New key words: 16</div>
	5 years+			<div data-bbox="331 1182 612 1234">Book Band 4 Blue</div> <div data-bbox="331 1256 612 1308">Book Band 5 Green</div> <div data-bbox="331 1352 612 1404">Book Band 5 Green</div> <div data-bbox="331 1426 612 1478">Book Band 6 Orange</div> <div data-bbox="331 1494 612 1545">Book Band 7 Turquoise</div>
6 years+	<div data-bbox="331 1599 612 1650">Book Band 7 Turquoise</div> <div data-bbox="331 1749 612 1800">Book Band 8 Purple</div> <div data-bbox="331 1874 612 1926">Book Band 9 Gold</div>	<b>Level 3 Confident Reader</b>	Total words: 500-550 Story/subject words: 40-45	<div data-bbox="1177 1581 1469 1632"><b>Level 7</b> Total words: 800-1000 New key words: 30</div> <div data-bbox="1177 1648 1469 1700"><b>Level 8</b> Total words: 1000-1400 New key words: 33</div> <div data-bbox="1177 1715 1469 1767"><b>Level 9</b> Total words: 1200-1400 New key words: 35</div> <div data-bbox="1177 1783 1469 1834"><b>Level 10</b> Total words: 1400-1600 New key words: 37</div>
7 years+	<div data-bbox="331 1998 612 2049">Book Band 9 Gold</div> <div data-bbox="331 2094 612 2145">Book Band 10 White</div>	<b>Level 4 Independent Reader</b>	Total words: 700-800 Story/subject words: 60-70	<div data-bbox="1177 1980 1469 2031"><b>Level 11</b> Total words: 1600-1800 New key words: 40</div> <div data-bbox="1177 2047 1469 2098"><b>Level 12</b> Total words: 1800-2000 New key words: none</div>

# What types of books will children read across the series and how are they organised?

	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 100 books across 5 levels of increasing difficulty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 36 books across 12 levels of increasing difficulty</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Both phonics and key words reading practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Titles methodically introduce and repeat key words</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Titles span a wide range of interests: contemporary fiction, traditional tales, non-fiction and character-led stories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All feature stories about Peter and Jane and their family and friends</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Level 0 - Beginner Reader:</b> Stories using phonics to develop very first reading skills. Steps 1 to 12 gradually introduce new letters and sounds and tricky words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Book A</b> provides an illustrated list of the key words introduced at that level. Across the book, each key word is highlighted at the foot of the page when used for the first time.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Level 1 - Early Reader:</b> For children who are ready to read some simple words and short sentences with help.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Book B</b> at each level also highlights new words on the page where they are first used.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Level 2 - Developing Reader:</b> For children who can read short, simple sentences with some help.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Book C</b> provides an opportunity to practise the words in context.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Level 3 - Confident Reader:</b> For more confident readers who can read simple stories.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Level 4 - Fluent Reader:</b> For fluent readers who are happy to read independently.</li> </ul>	



Similarities and differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Key Words follows the adventures of familiar characters through different stories, perfect for those children who like to return to the same world when they pick up a book, as well as embedding words and ideas in a memorable context.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read It Yourself offers a wide range of subject matter, allowing children to find a book that matches their interests at every level, as well as introducing them to new types of books and topics.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Both series are carefully levelled to offer clear progression in grammar and sentence structure, as well as the words they introduce children to.</li> </ul>



# Which words will the two series introduce children to?



## Read It Yourself



## Key Words

with Peter and Jane

- High-frequency key words are repeated throughout each book across the series.

- Introduces children to 300 of the most important key words for learning how to read

- Having these words repeated allows children to practise reading them in a variety of contexts.

- 200 of these are the most-common words which account for between half and three-quarters of everyday reading

- The number of key words increases through the levels from approximately 30 words at Level 1 to 75 words at Level 4.

- The additional 100 words include names of people and objects, as well as high-frequency words in spoken language

- Each book introduces children to specific story words (fiction books) or subject words (non-fiction books) based on the context of the story.

- Each book provides opportunities to practise reading these words until they are recognized at a glance

- Each level introduces a greater number of story and subject words. (A maximum of 12 at Level 1 to 70 at Level 4.)

- The number of key words included increases with each level (14 key words at Level 1 to 40 at Level 11)



### Similarities and differences

- Both Key Words and Read it Yourself introduce children to the 200 most common words that they will need to read fluently.



- The great majority of other high-frequency words are also included across both series.

- Key Words focuses on 300 key words, and revisits them up to 10 times per book to develop fluency.

- Read It Yourself introduces story or subject words in each book in addition to the key words for each level, meaning children will encounter a broader range of words that are repeated less frequently.



## How do the two series use phonics to help children to learn to read?

	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Beginner Reader Level 0 books are phonetically decodable and based on the Letters and Sounds approach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Books are based around the 300 key words that are most useful when learning to read.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Each book contains a small number of 'tricky words'.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The other words used in the books are phonetically decodable, starting with simple CVC words used in Level 1</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The 12 Steps in the level introduce different sounds and letters that represent them in a systematic order.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Books also progress systematically from simple CVC words through the different stages of phonics, depending on the level.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Early Reader Level 1 books use story or subject words which are decodable to Letters and Sounds phase 5.</li> </ul>	



Similarities and differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Both series present an opportunity for children to develop their phonics.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Key Words embeds the most useful key words within decodable texts, growing in difficulty as the levels progress to match the children's improving skills.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read It Yourself offers phonically decodable texts at Level 0, providing a foundation of phonics knowledge and practise before starting on the levelled texts.</li> </ul>

