

The Word Detective Quiz

Information for parents and teachers:

The Word Detective Quiz has been designed by researchers in the Department of Experimental Psychology at Oxford University to investigate how children learn to read. Please read the following information before you decide whether you wish for your child/pupil to take part.

Who?

The **Word Detective Quiz** has been designed by Kate Nation and her research group, ReadOxford. Kate is a Professor in the department of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford. The research is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and the Leverhulme Trust. The study has been reviewed and approved by the University of Oxford's Central University Research Ethics Committee for research involving human participants (ref: R51473/RE001). All researchers possess full, up-to-date DBS certificates and have completed training in working with young children.

Why?

We have designed this quiz to explore how children progress through the stages of learning to read, in particular, how they make the transition from phonics-based reading to more expert and effortless reading. A better understanding of the processes involved in learning to read will help us to develop ways of optimising reading practice to promote successful learning. We also hope to identify why some children find reading difficult and to develop methods to help these children.

Who can take part?

We would like as many children as possible aged between 5 and 16 years to participate. Children of all reading abilities are invited to take part.

What will happen?

It is an online quiz which is fun and engaging. It will take about 5 minutes to complete. Children will see a series of words and for each one they decide whether it is a familiar word, or a made-up word.



Potential risks?

There are no potential risks in taking part in this quiz. While there is no direct benefit to your child/pupil from taking part in this study, the knowledge we gain from the study will help us understand how children learn to read, potentially benefiting other children in the future.

What happens to the data collected?

Responses from each child are completely anonymous. No personal data are collected or recorded and individual children can not be identified from their responses. Regular summaries of our overall findings will be available to interested families and schools, and will be placed on our website (www.readoxford.org). We also aim to publish our findings in scientific journals but this may be a year or two from the end of the study. Members of the research team will have access to the anonymous research data, stored on a secure server at Oxford University. It will be kept for a minimum of 3 years after publication of our research findings. At the end of the study the anonymous data may be deposited on a public data depository so that other researchers can use them.

Does my child/pupil have to complete the quiz?

No, they do not. Once the quiz has started, your child/pupil is able to stop at any time, without penalty and without giving a reason, if they do not wish to continue. Their data will not be saved.

Any questions?

If you would like to discuss the research with someone or have any questions please contact us at WordDetective@psy.ox.ac.uk

We hope that you will be happy for your child/pupil to take part. If you are, then please close this window and begin the quiz!

Additional Information

It is extremely unlikely any concerns or complaints should arise as a result of our study. If you have a concern about any aspect of the project, please speak to us via email: WordDetective@psy.ox.ac.uk. We will do our best to acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how we intend to deal with it. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford (using the contact details below) who will seek to resolve the matter in a reasonably expeditious manner.

Chair, **Medical Sciences Inter-Divisional Research Ethics Committee**; Email: ethics@medsci.ox.ac.uk; Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD.

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