Itchen Abbas Primary School
'Growing Hearts and Minds'

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Headteacher: Mrs A. Dear

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Dear Squirrels and Hedgehog Parents

Today your child has been given a letter outlining how to access the Collins Big Cat ebooks which we are using to provide decodable books to read at home. Your child will be allocated a new book on Fridays, after the children have focused on this book in school.

In the front cover of each book are the words and sounds we have focussed on and we would like you to practise with your child when reading.

Below is a copy of the letter with information on how to access and navigate the books. Your child's letter will include their personal log in details. Please email us if you do not receive this.

We have found that some search engines will not open the Book Library. If you are having difficulties, use Google Chrome. We are also aware that access via Samsung phones is under development. If you have difficulties accessing the online books, please contact the school office. It is important that children are reading at least 5 times per week so please do let us know any difficulties.

https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/

I hope you all successfully access your book. Your children are very excited to share this with you!
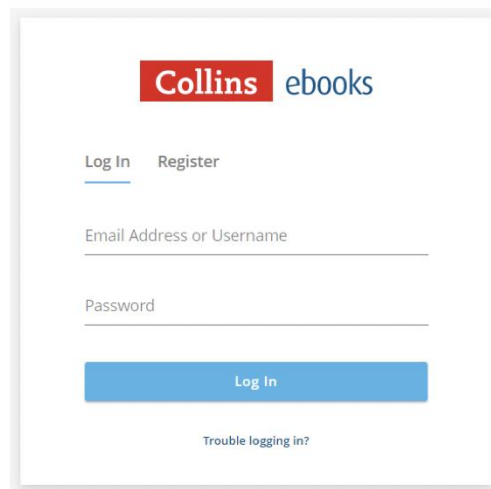
Best wishes

Mrs Dear
Headteacher

Collins Big Cat ebook libraries
Parent Guide

Logging in

To access your child's Big Cat ebooks, go to:
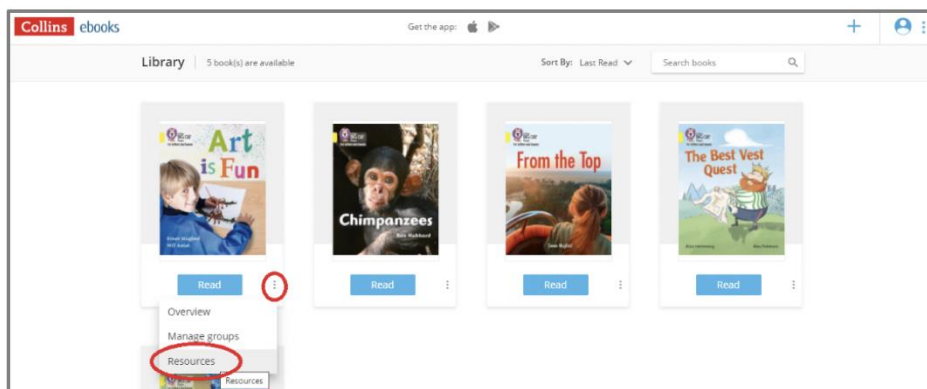https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/ (see right).

Enter the username and password located at the top of this page.

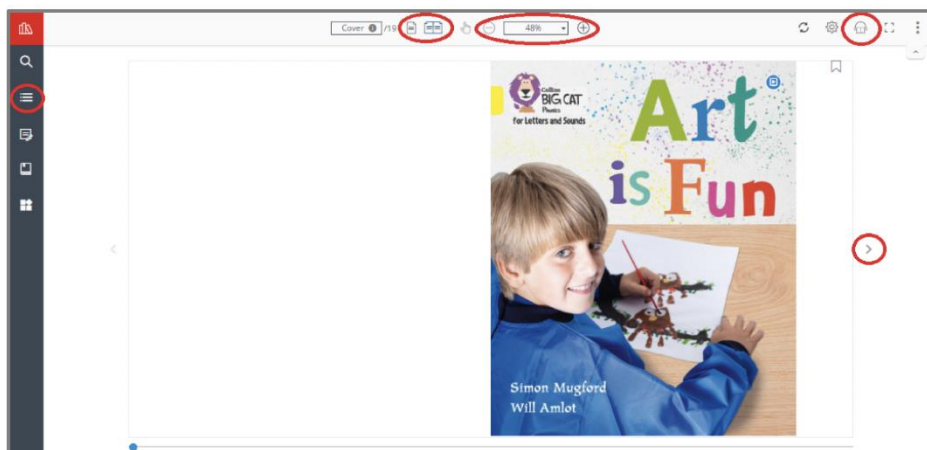If you misplace your password, contact your school.

Library

Once logged in, you will land on the library. Here you will see any books that have been assigned to your child by their teacher. You can access a resource sheet for each book by clicking the three dots, then "Resources", as shown below.

The reader

To open one of the books, select either the cover or the "Read" button. You will see this screen.

Some key elements of the reader are highlighted in the above image:

- Use the arrows either side of the page to leaf through the book.
- Use the single and double page icons to switch between those two views. Many of the Big Cat books are best experienced using the double page view.
- Use the zoom function as required. The "Fit to width" option helps you to make best use of your screen
- For longer books, you can use the Table of Contents in the left hand menu to navigate.
- Don't worry about remembering where you left off. When you next open the book, you will start from where you left off.

Audio

Where audio is available, the audio icon will appear in the top right corner. Click this to launch the

audio toolbar (shown below).

The words will be highlighted as the audio plays. You can pause the audio at any time and adjust the volume. The finger icon in the toolbar allows you to point at any word, and the audio will begin playing from there. To dismiss the audio toolbar, simply click the cross icon.

Apps

The Collins eBooks app is available for iOS from the App Store. The app is free to download, and you can log in using the same details.

We are in the process of developing an app for Android, which will support users of Big Cat.

When using the app, you can download books to your device, after which you can then access them without needing to be connected to the internet.