

St Margaret's at Hasbury Church of England Primary School and Nursery

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Dear Parents,

The school has purchased a digital library from Collins e-books containing thousands of books for a wide range of reading ages, for our children. Your child will be receiving a username and password for Collins e-books in school this week.

In light of the ongoing pandemic, and in an effort to minimise any surface contact across bubbles, your child will be allocated a home reading book through this digital platform. Group reading will still take place in school using books from our actual library, however these books will then not be circulated for 72 hours.

In some circumstances, particularly in upper KS2, teachers may choose to use a mixture of the digital platform and books from the classroom library to ensure accessibility to a diverse range of texts. Again, this will only occur if a particular book has not been handled by another child for 72 hours.

Thank you for ongoing support in sharing the love of reading.

Please use the link that is on the guidance information attached, **not** the link on the children's diaries.

If you have any queries, please contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jones

Mrs Jones
English Lead



No physical books will be sent home over half-term, we are pleased to have access to Collins Big Cat e-books. Your child has been allocated books to read, and their login details are on the inside cover of diaries.

Collins Big Cat ebook libraries

Parent Guide

Logging in

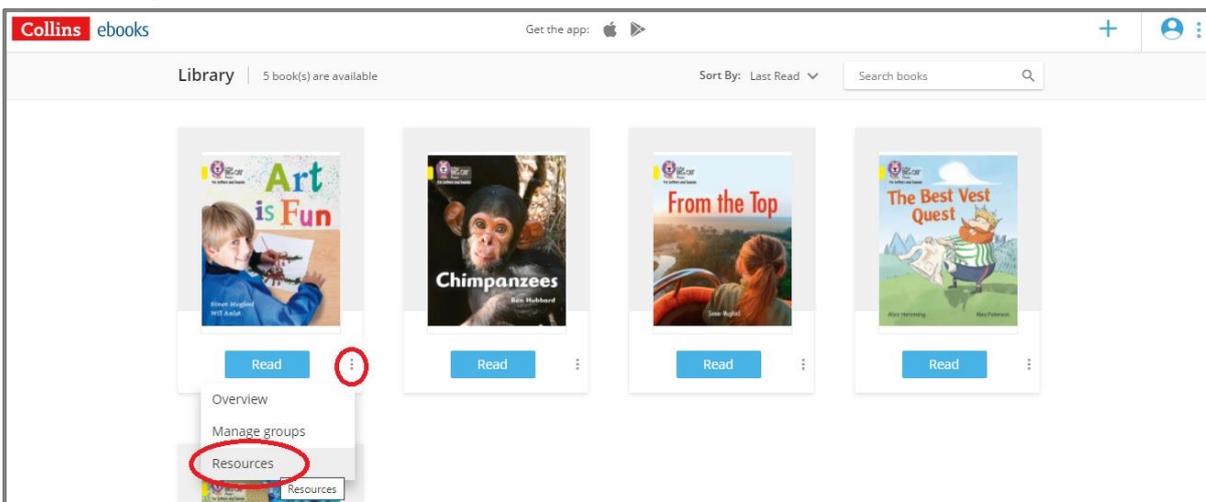
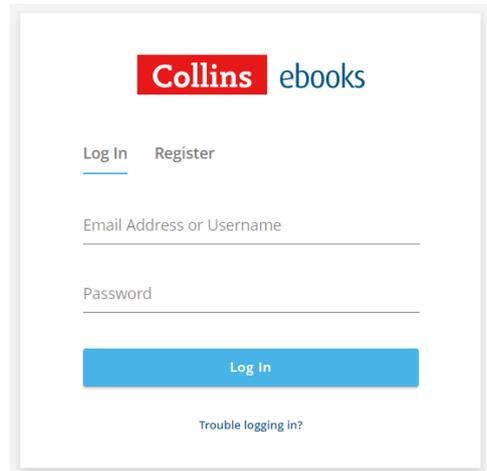
To access your child's Big Cat ebooks, go to:
<https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/> (see right).

Enter the username and password provided by your school to access your library.

If you misplace your password, contact your school.

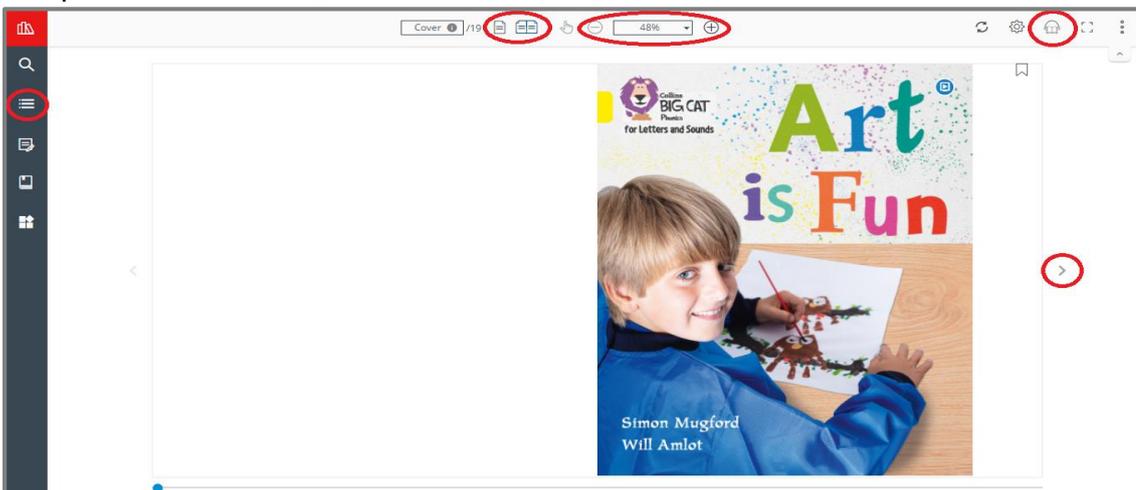
Library

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 both iOS and Android, from the App Store and Google Play respectively. The app is free to download, and you can log in using the same details.

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.