

Overview of Letters and Sounds



Phase 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuning in to sounds (environmental, instrumental sounds, body percussion) • Rhythm and rhyme • Alliteration • Oral blending and segmenting
Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sounds: s a t p i n m d o c k ck e u r h b f ff l ll ss • Tricky words: I the to go no into
Phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sounds: j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur ow ear air ure er • Tricky words: he she we me be was my you they her all are
Phase 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new sounds are taught but they are used in words containing initial or final blends (also known as adjacent consonants): st nd mp nt nk ft sk lt lp tr dr gr cr br fr bl fl gl pl cl sl sp st tw sm nch shr str thr. It is important that the each letter in the blends is said clearly. • Tricky words: said so have like some come were little one do when out what there
Phase 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New sound: zh • New graphemes for reading: ay (day) ou (out) ie (tie) ea (east) oy (boy) ir (girl) ue (blue) aw (saw) wh (when) ph (photo) ew (new) oe (toe) au (Paul) Split digraphs a-e (make) e-e (these) i-e (like) o-e (home) u-e (rule) • New pronunciations for known graphemes: i (fin, find), o (hot, cold), c (cat, cent), g (got, giant), u (but, put-in south of England), ow (cow, blow), ie (tie, field), ea (eat, bread), er (farmer, her), a (hat, what), y (yes, by, very), ch (chin, school, chef), ou (out, shoulder, could, you) • Tricky words: oh their people Mr Mrs looked called asked could • Alternative spellings for sounds e.g. the 'a' sound can be represented by the letters: ai ay a-e igh ey ei
Phase 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and apply suffixes: ed ing ful est er ment ness en s es • Understand the rules for adding: ing ed er est ful ly y • Investigate how adding suffixes and prefixes changes words • Learn about the past tense • Learn a range of spelling strategies

Phonics Glossary of Key Terminology

Phoneme	The smallest unit of sound in a word e.g. cat has 3 phonemes c a t, church has 3 phonemes ch ur ch, stamp has 5 phonemes s t a m p. There are 44 phonemes in the English language
Grapheme	The letter or group of letters representing a phoneme. Graphemes represent how a phoneme is spelt. e.g. The word b-r-igh-t is made up of 4 phonemes; the igh phoneme is represented by 3 letters but only makes one phoneme. A grapheme can represent more than one phoneme e.g. C = cat and city
Tricky word	Word which cannot be sounded out e.g. the, said.
Key/ High frequency words	Words that appear frequently in text.
Digraph	Two letters, which make 1 sound. e.g. <u>duc</u> k. A consonant digraph contains two consonants (e.g. sh ck th ll). A vowel digraph contains at least one vowel (e.g. ai ee ar oy).
Split digraph	A digraph in which the two letters are not adjacent e.g. make a-e is a unit of sound (digraph), it is being 'split' by the constant k.
Trigraph	Three letters, which make 1 sound. e.g. <u>ligh</u> t
Oral blending	Hearing a series of spoken sounds and merging them together to make a spoken word without seeing any letters. e.g. teacher says "b-u-s" child says "bus"
Oral segmenting	Hearing a spoken word and splitting it up into spoken sounds. E.g. teacher says "cat" child says "c-a-t"
Blending (links to reading)	Recognising the letter sounds in a written word and merging them together in the order they are written to pronounce the word. E.g. c-u-p = cup
Segmenting (links to writing)	Identifying the phonemes in a spoken word and writing them down to form a word. E.g. bag = b-a-g