

Phonics Meeting for Parents

23rd April 2018

Why Phonics?

“Synthetic phonics offers the vast majority of young children the best and most direct route to becoming skilled readers and writers”

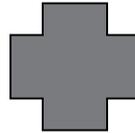
Sir Jim Rose, Rose Review of Reading 2006

If a child memorises 10 words, the child can only read 10 words, but if a child learns the sounds of 10 letters, the child will be able to read 350 three sound words, 4,320 four sound words and 21,650 five sound words.

PHONICS AT A GLANCE

Phonics is...

Skills of segmentation
and blending



Knowledge of the
alphabetic code.

SOME DEFINITIONS

A Phoneme

This is the smallest unit of sound in a word.

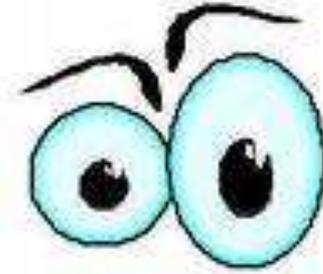


How many phonemes can you hear in

cat?

A grapheme

These are the letters that represent the phoneme.

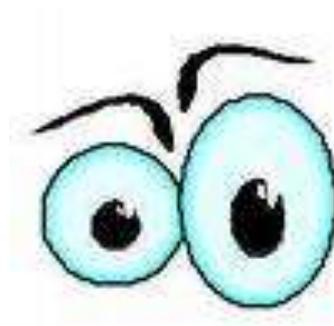


Children need to practise recognising the grapheme and saying the phoneme that it represents.

A phoneme you hear



A grapheme you see



A word always has the same number of phonemes and graphemes!

HOW TO SAY THE SOUNDS

Saying the sounds correctly with your child is extremely important.

The way we say sound may well be different from when you were at school!

We say the shortest form of the sounds.



MR THORNE DOES PHONICS



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LITw0oiLNys>

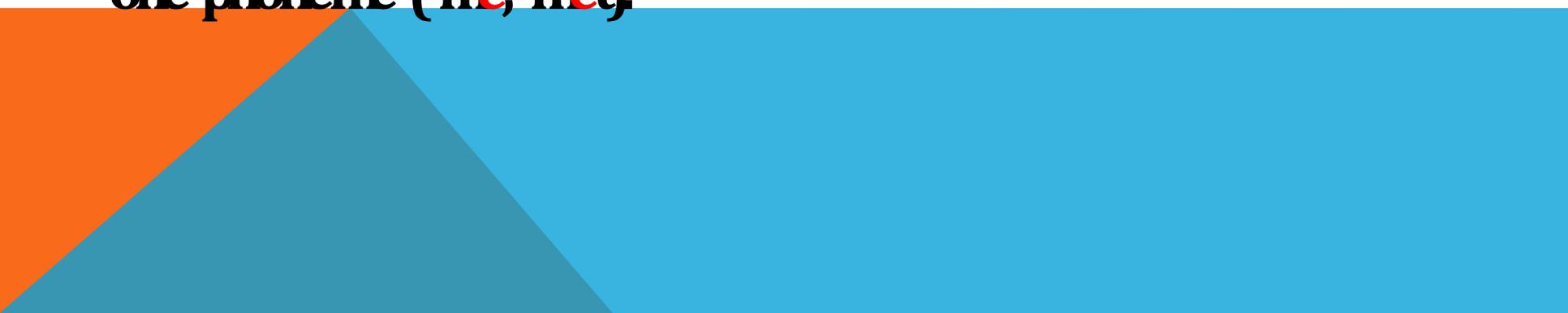
THIS IS WHERE IT GETS TRICKY!

Phonemes are represented by graphemes.

A grapheme can consist of 1, 2 or more letters.

A phoneme can be represented/spelled in more than one way (
cat, kennel, choir).

The same grapheme may represent more than
one phoneme (**me, met**).



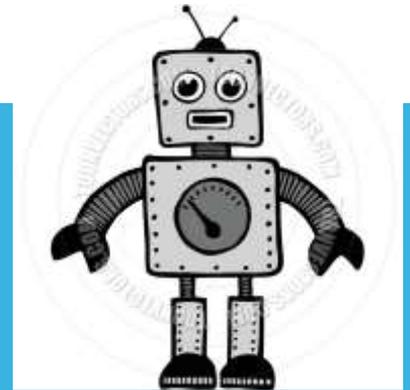
Blending

Recognising the letter sounds in a written word,
for example;

c-u-p

and merging or 'blending' them in the order in
which they are written to pronounce the word
'cup'.

**TOP TIP- ROBOT
ARMS!**



Segmenting

‘Chopping Up’ the word to spell it out.

Its is the opposite of blending!

Identifying the individual sounds in a spoken word
(e.g. **h-i-m** , **s-t-or-k**) and writing down letters
for each sound (phoneme) to form the word **him**
and stork.

Once children are good with single phonemes...

DIGRAPHS – 2 letters that make 1 sound

ll ss zz oa ai

TRIGRAPHS – 3 letters that make 1 sound

igh dge



TRICKY WORDS

Words that are not phonically decodeable

e.g. was, the, I

Some are 'tricky' to start with but will become decodeable once we have learned the harder Phonemes;

e.g. out, there,



LETTERS AND SOUNDS

- *Letters and Sounds* is divided into six phases, with each phase building on the skills and knowledge of previous learning. Children have time to practise and rapidly expand their ability to read and spell words. They are also taught to read and spell 'tricky words', which are words with spellings that are unusual.

Lesson format

- In each year group, phonic lessons follow the same format:
- **Revise:** The children will revise previous learning.
- **Teach:** New phonemes or high frequency or tricky words will be taught.
- **Practice:** The children will practise the new learning by reading and/or writing the words.
- **Apply:** The children will apply their new learning by reading or writing sentences.

PHONIC LEARNING IS FUN!

The children learn and practise their phonemes in lots of fun ways:

Sound talking and rhyming.

Playing games – table games or interactive games on the computer.

Using phoneme frames, “sound buttons” and whiteboards to spell words.

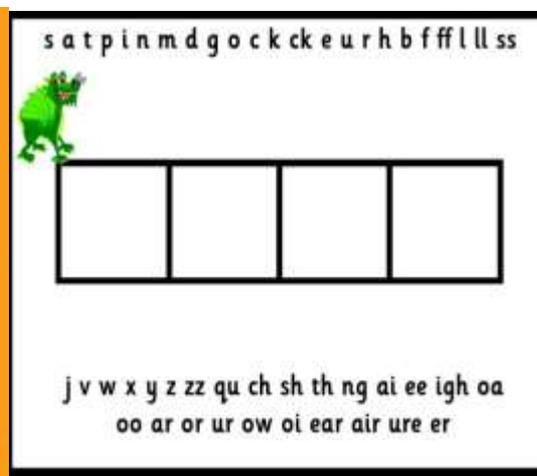
Sorting phonemes.

Making words with phonemes.

Being phoneme “detectives”.

Reading and writing sentences. Silly sentences are great fun!

Alien words and naming their own aliens.





YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING CHECK



WHAT IS IS?

The Phonics Screening Check is meant to show how well your child can use the phonics skills they've learned up to the end of Year 1, and to identify students who need extra phonics help. The Department for Education defines the checks as “short, light-touch assessments” that take about four to nine minutes to complete.

What's on it?

The checks consist of 40 words and non-words that your child will be asked to read one-on-one with a teacher. Non-words (or nonsense words, or pseudo words) are a collection of letters that will follow phonics rules your child has been taught, but don't mean anything – your child will need to read these with the correct sounds to show that they understand the phonics rules behind them.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Ulv63W9StE

What will my child's score mean?

Your child will be scored against a national standard, and the main result will be whether they have reached or not reached the required standard.

In 2013, 2014 and 2015 the "pass threshold" was 32, which means children had to read at least 32 words out of 40 correctly. The threshold mark is communicated to schools at the end of June, after the test has been taken, so that teachers can mark the Check.

You will be told whether your child reached the expected standard or not, but schools' results will not be published. If your child's score falls below the standard, they will be given extra phonics help and can re-take the Phonics screening check in Year 2.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Play 'I spy'.

Display graphemes somewhere in the house.

Play with magnetic letters, using some two-grapheme (letter) combinations, eg:
r-ai-n = rain blending for reading

rain = r-ai-n segmenting for spelling

Praise your child for trying to decode words they see both in books and out and about!

Look at and identify tricky words.

Play phonics games on the computer or iPad.

Play pairs with words and pictures (lots of resources available online!

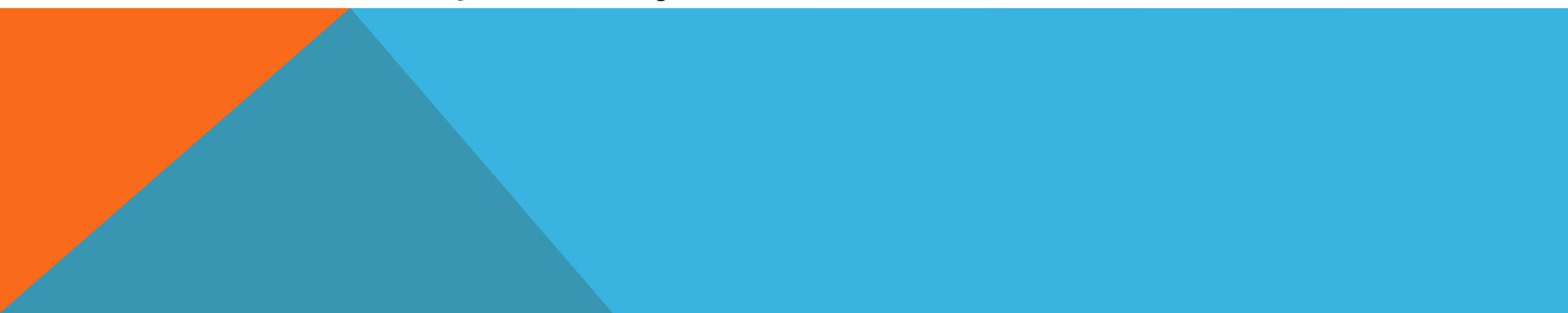
Encourage your child to use their phonics for spelling, rather than giving them the word to copy- you will be surprised at what they can do!

REMEMBER: Phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader.

• Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to:

- Sound out
- Re-read to check it makes sense.
- Use pictures for clues.
- Ask questions about the book.

And most importantly **ENJOY READING!**





HAVE A GO!

Please feel free to have a go at some of the activities that your children enjoy in their phonic sessions. Reception and Year 1 teachers are available to demonstrate activities and answer any question!

Thank you.