

Phonics at a Glance



What is Phonics?

Phonics consists of:

- Identifying sounds in spoken words;
- Recognising the common spellings of each phoneme;
- Blending phonemes into words for reading;
- Segmenting words into phonemes for spelling.

Some Definitions

A **phoneme**
is the smallest unit
of sound in a word

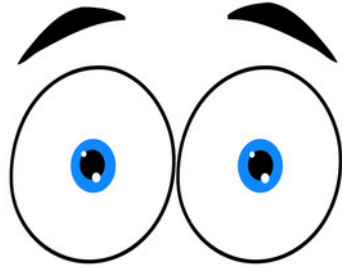


How many
phonemes can you
hear in the word

cat?

- A **grapheme**

These are the letters that represent the phoneme.



The **grapheme** could be 1 letter, 2 letters or more!!

- t
- ch
- igh

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'

SEGMENTING

- ‘Chopping Up’ the word to spell it out
- 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

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 (**c**at, **k**ennel, **ch**oir)
- The same grapheme may represent more than one phoneme (m**e**, m**e**t)

Grapheme key Vocabulary

- Digraph 2 letters making 1 sound ai, ee, oo
- Trigraph 3 letters making 1 sound igh, ear
- Split digraph where the 2 letters are not next to each other make

Learning the phonemes

Phonics starts in EYFS

Children are introduced to:

- Using common constants and vowels.
- Blending for reading and segmenting for spelling simple CVC words
- Understanding that words are constructed from phonemes and that phonemes are represented by graphemes
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Phase 2

Children learn letter sets of 19 phonemes

- Set 1 - s, a, t, p,
- Set 2 - i, n, m, d,
- Set 3 - g, o, c, k,
- Set 4 - ck, e, u, r
- Set 5 - h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

Phase 3

When children leave EYFS they should be confident at phase 3.

This is where they learn to:

Read and spell a wide range of CVC words

Use all letters and less frequent consonant digraphs and some long vowel phonemes

- Letter progression
- Set 6 -j, v, w, x
- Set 7 - y, z, zz, qu
- Consonant digraphs
- Ch, sh, th, ng
- Graphemes
- Ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

Phase 4

- Children don't learn any new sounds in this phase they are consolidating what they should already know.

Phase 5

This phase continues throughout year 1.

the children will be taught to:

read phonetically decodable two syllable
and 3 syllable words

use alternative ways of pronouncing and
spelling the graphemes corresponding to
the long vowel phonemes.

Spelling complex words using phonetically
plausible attempts

Graphemes

- ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, wh, ph, ew, ow, au, a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e
- Alternative graphemes for:
- i, o, c, g, u, ow, ie, ea, er, a, y, ch, ou

The Phonic Check

- The phonics screening check contains 40 words divided into two sections of 20 words. Both sections contain a mixture of real words and pseudo-words.
- **It happens across the country for ALL children in year 1 in June (week beginning June 12th 2017)**
- **Section 1 consists of 20 words**
- The words in section 1 will have a variety of simple word structures (for example CVC, VCC, CCVC and CVCC) using:
 - single letters (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q(u), r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z)
 - some consonant digraphs (ch, ck, ff, ll, ng, sh, ss, th, zz)
 - frequent and consistent vowel digraphs (ar, ee, oi, oo, or)
- **Section 2 consists of 20 words**
- The words in section 2 will have a variety of more complex word structures (for example CCVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC and two syllable words) with some:
 - additional consonant digraphs (ph, wh)
 - less frequent and consistent vowel digraphs, including split digraphs (a-e, ai, au, aw, ay, ea, e-e, er, ew, i-e, ie, ir, oa, o-e, ou, ow, oy, ue, u-e, ur)
 - trigraphs (air, igh).
































What it looks like

- [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/299972/phonics screening check sample materials - children s materials.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/299972/phonics_screening_check_sample_materials_-_children_s_materials.pdf)
- [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439254/2015 phonics screening check - pupils materials.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439254/2015_phonics_screening_check_-_pupils_materials.pdf)

What you can do to help

- Practise looking and saying the graphemes
- Spotting them in words when reading
- Segmenting and blending
- Playing games such as phonics play
- Watching Mr Thorne
- Don't panic!!!

The 44 phonemes

/b/	/d/	/f/	/g/	/h/	/j/	/k/	/l/	/m/	/n/	/ng/
										
/p/	/r/	/s/	/t/	/v/	/w/	/y/	/z/	/th/	/th/	/ch/
										
/sh/	/zh/	/a/	/e/	/i/	/o/	/u/	/ae/	/ee/	/ie/	/oe/
										
/ue/	/oo/	/ar/	/ur/	/au/	/er/	/ow/	/oi/	/air/	/ear/	/ure/
