

# Phonics Meeting





# What is Phonics?

- Understanding of the alphabetic code

The relationship between the sounds we hear in speech and the letters which represent them.

- Skill of blending and segmenting

blending for reading, segmenting for spelling

# Why teach phonics?

- 85% of the English language is phonetic
- Phonics is a means to an end. The sooner children can recognise the sounds and the letters that represent them and blend them together in order to read words, the sooner they can read for understanding and pleasure.



# The English Language

26 letters of the alphabet

44 sounds

140 ways to spell these sounds

# The Alphabetic Code

**phoneme**

smallest unit of sound in a  
word

**grapheme**

a letter or sequence of letters  
that represents a phoneme

- Phonemes (sounds) are represented by graphemes (letters)
- A grapheme may consist of one (t), two (ch), or more letters (igh).
- A phoneme can be represented/spelled in more than one way: cat, kennel, choir
- The same grapheme may represent more than one phoneme: circus, car, me, met

Blending (reading)  
Segmenting(spelling)

ch-i-p-s

# How to say the phonemes

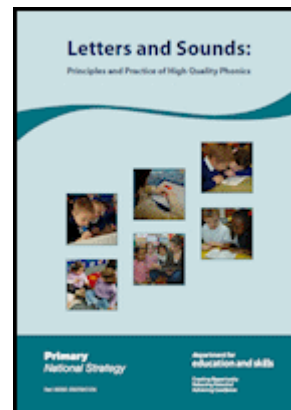
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LITw0oiLNys>



# Other Terminology

- Digraph (2 letters 1 sound)
- Consonant digraph (sh, ch, ck, th, ll, ss)
- Vowel digraph (at least 1 vowel – ee, ai, ar, er)
- Trigraph (3 letters 1 sound igh, dge,)
- Split digraph/sometimes magic e but we teach correct terminology (bike, came, rose)

At Hermitage we use **Letters and Sounds** as our main phonics scheme and we supplement this with other resources.



# Letters and Sounds

6 Phases

Early Years to Year 2



# Phase 1

From birth – beginning of Reception

Speaking and listening activities to develop language structures:

General sound discrimination e.g. environmental, instruments, body percussion, rhythm

Speech sound discrimination e.g. using different voices, chants, making animal noises etc.

Rhythm and Rhyme e.g. rhyming strings, songs

Alliteration e.g. sing a song of sixpence, can you count the candles on the cake, beginnings of initial sounds

# Phase 2



- Reception
- Introduces letter sound correspondences
- Blend and segment vc, cv, (spell) cvc words (read)

s a t p

i n m d

c o g k

ck e u r

h b f ff l ll ss

High frequency words (read only) is it in at and to the no go l

# Phase 3

- Reception
- Read and spell 2 syllable words and captions
- Letter names

j v w x

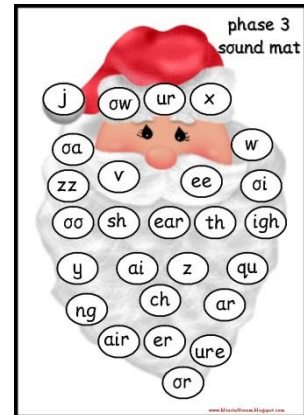
y z zz qu

ch sh th ng ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur ow oi ear air ure er

High frequency words (read)

was my you they her all are

Spell HFW no go

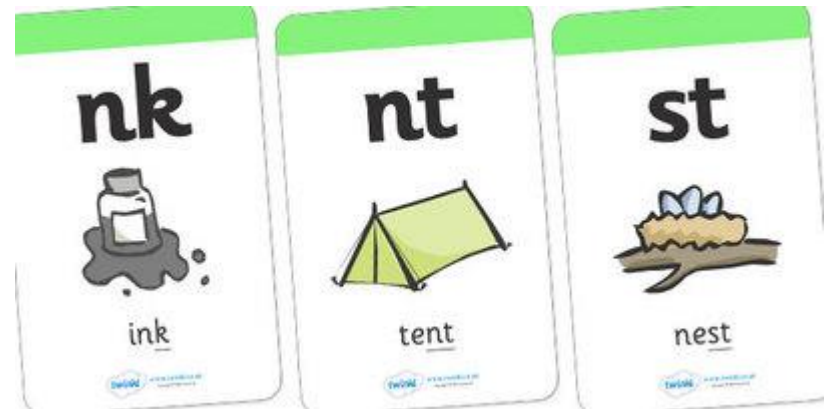


# Example of a Phase 3 Lesson

<http://www.cleo.net.uk/resources/index.php?ks=1&cur=1>

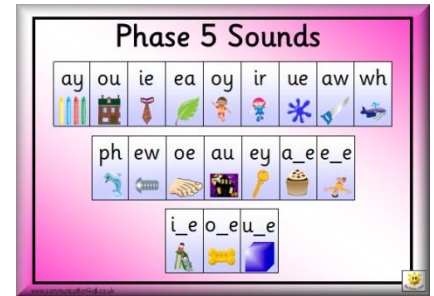
# Phase 4

- Reception/Year 1
- Blending and segmenting adjacent consonants for reading and writing
- 2 syllable words: lunchbox, desktop etc.
- cvc, ccvc, cvcc words





# Phase 5



- Year 1
- Screening check summer term in Y1

Further graphemes for reading ay ou ie ea oy ir ue aw wh ph ew  
oe au a-e i-e e-e o-e u-e

Alternative pronunciations for graphemes (fin, find cow, blow)

High frequency words (read and spell)

Alternative spellings for phonemes ( sh tion ss cion ch)

2 syllable and 3 syllable words (read and spell)

Writing and reading sentences

# Phase 6

## Year 1 / Year 2

### Spelling focus

- Past tense (ed)
- Suffixes (s es ing ed er est ful ly y ment ness)
- Prefixes
- Plurals
- Spelling long words (syllables)
- Finding and learning the difficult bits in words
- Learning and practising spellings (syllables, base words, analogy, mnemonics)
- Application of spelling in writing







# Year 1 Screening Check

- National test introduced to all schools in 2012
- Takes place in one week in June
- Reading test to assess phonic skills (decoding)
- 40 words- real and pseudo – gradually more difficult
- 1:1 with class teacher
- Report to parents whether met expected standard
- Extra support with phonics in Year 2 if necessary
- Retake in Year 2 if necessary

Practice sheet: Real words

in
at
beg
sum

Practice sheet: Pseudo words

ot	
vap	
osk	
ect	

# Useful sites

<http://mrthorne.com/>

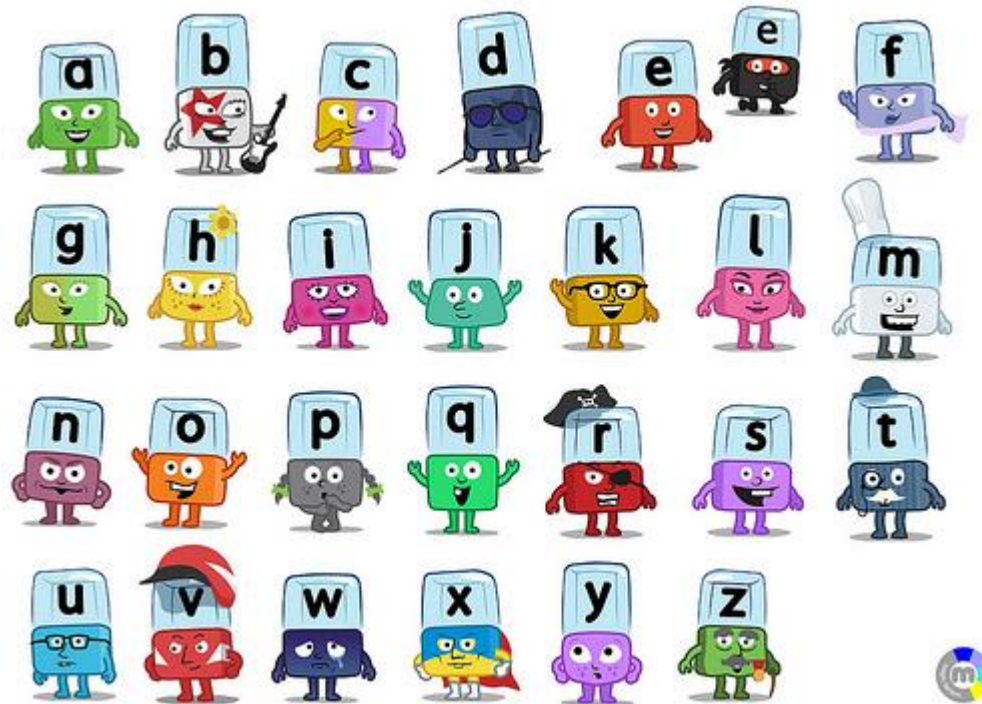


<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

PhonicsPlay.co.uk

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/alphablocks/>





# Ways to help at home







Thank you for  
coming!

Any questions?

