

Supporting phonics at home

What is phonics?

- Foundations of learning to read and spell.
- Learning to blend for reading.
- Learning to segment for writing.

In reception we are following the Letters and Sounds programme. This document can be found online at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190599/Letters_and_Sounds_-_DFES-00281-2007.pdf

This is a six phase teaching scheme and the phases are taught as follows:

Phase 1 in Nursery

Phase 2 and 3 in Reception

Phase 4 and 5 in Year 1.

Misconceptions

Children are taught single sounds, diagraphs and trigraphs. It is imperative that sounds are pronounced correctly. Children are taught to say the sounds in a short snappy manner. Here is an example of how a word can be changed if the sounds are not pronounced correctly.

Mat – m (er) a t (er) sounds like matter not mat.

Have a try!

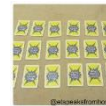
Games

Below are some game you might like to play to make phonics fun at home. Remember children love an 'adult mistake' and to play the teacher role. This can make learning more fun for them!

Sound splat – lay the sounds out on a table and with a fly swatter, ruler or your hand splat the different sounds.

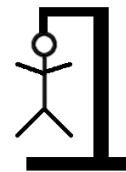


Sound pairs – same as picture snap but with sounds.



Sound hangman -

sh ee p
— — ●



Run to the sound – laying sounds outside and the children have to run to the sound you say.



Sound bingo



Treasure hunt – hide the sounds and the children have to find them.



Point to the word – Ask them to point to a word around the room or run to it!

Sleepy lions – Children pretend they are lions and asleep, you say different words and the children have to wake up and roar when they hear the correct sound. For example if they are listening for the 'ai' sound in words you might say dog, hat, boat, rain! When they hear rain they wake up and roar.



Useful websites and apps

- Phonics play – www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- ICT games - <http://ictgames.com/literacy.html>
- Spellosaur



Reading at home



- Lots of praise
- Reading little and often
- Reading alternate pages with your child
- Phonic games and activities some nights
- Important to share picture books and read to your child to develop a love of story.
- Comprehension, fluency and expression are important!

Expectations

- By end of **YN**: Secure in Phase 1
- By end of **YR**: Secure in Phases 2 & 3
- By end of **Y1**: 85% secure in Phase 5
- By end of **Y2**: All children to be secure in Phase 6.