

Phonics information for parents



In Key Stage 1 your child will have a daily phonics lesson. This covers the phonetic aspects of reading and spelling. There are 6 phases of learning in phonics and in year 1 and 2 children should move through phases 4 to 6.

Phase 4 is a revision of all the sounds learnt so far. In phase 5 children learn the graphemes

ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, wh, ph, ew, oe, au, ey, a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e

By phase 6 children should be able to read hundreds of words automatically, by decoding them quickly and silently or by sounding and blending them out loud. Spelling should be phonetically accurate. Children learn how to add suffixes such as -ing or -ed. They spell long words with several syllables.

Here are some terms that you may find useful when your child talks about their phonics.

Phoneme *The smallest unit of sound*

Grapheme *The written sound*

Digraph *2 letters to make a sound e.g. ch*

Trigraph *3 letters to make a sound e.g. igh*

Split digraph *You might have learnt it as magic 'e'*

where the e changes the vowel sound eg make

By the end of year 2 children should be able to read and spell all of the first 100 high frequency words and a range of tricky words and be working on the next 200 high frequency words.

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Letters and sounds: High Frequency Words

(bold=tricky words)

Phase 2

a	an	as	at	if	in
is	it	of	off	on	can
dad	had	back	and	get	big
him	his	not	got	up	mum
but	the	to	I	no	go
into					

Phase 3

will	that	this	then	them	with
see	for	now	down	look	too
he	she	we	me	be	was
you	they	all	are	my	her

Phase 4

went	It's	from	children	just	help
said	have	like	so	do	some
come	were	there	little	one	when
out	what				

Phase 5

don't	old	I'm	by	time	house
about	your	day	made	came	make
here	saw	very	put	oh	their
people	Mr	Mrs	looked	called	asked
could					

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High Frequency words

(Next 200 common words in order)

Water	away	good	want	over
how	did	man	going	where
would	or	took	school	think
home	who	didn't	ran	know
bear	can't	again	cat	long
things	new	after	wanted	eat
everyone	our	two	has	yes
play	take	thought	dog	well
find	more	I'll	round	tree
magic	shouted	us	other	food
fox	through	way	been	stop
must	red	door	right	sea
these	began	boy	animals	never
next	first	work	lots	need
that's	baby	fish	gave	mouse
something	bed	may	still	found
live	say	soon	night	narrator
small	car	couldn't	three	head
king	town	I've	around	every
garden	fast	only	many	laughed
let's	much	suddenly	told	another
great	why	cried	keep	room
last	jumped	because	even	am
before	gran	clothes	tell	key
fun	place	mother	sat	boat
window	sleep	feet	morning	queen
each	book	its	green	different
let	girl	which	inside	run
any	under	hat	snow	air
trees	bad	tea	top	eyes

Phonics information



For parents of
Key Stage 1 children.