



PHONICS

What's it all about?





What is 'phonics' and how do we teach it?

Phonics prepares children for learning to read and write.

Children learn how words are made up from collections of little sounds (phonemes) all blended together.

Children are taught how to identify each sound in a word (segmenting) and this helps them to read and spell them.



Terminology

- **Phoneme** – a sound
- **Grapheme** – the way a sound is written e.g. /sh/ in dish
- **Digraph** – two letters making one sound e.g. /ch/ in chop
- **Trigraph** – three letters making one sound e.g. /igh/ in night
- **Split digraph** – a digraph with a letter in the middle e.g. /a_e/ in make
- **Segment** – split a word up into sounds (“sound it out”)
- **Blend** – merge sounds together to know what the word says
- **Tricky Words** – words that can not be sounded out e.g. ‘the’
- **High Frequency Words** – words that children come across frequently



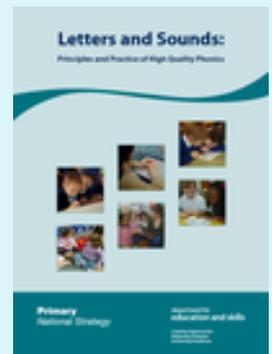
Letters & Sounds[©]

Letters and Sounds is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills.

It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills.

Children are taught phonics daily and in a set order.

There are six overlapping phases.





Phase	Phonic Knowledge and Skills
<i>Phase One</i> (Nursery/Reception)	Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending and segmenting.
<i>Phase Two</i> (Reception)	Learning 19 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each. Blending sounds together to make words. Segmenting words into their separate sounds. Beginning to read simple captions.
<i>Phase Three</i> (Reception)	Learning the remaining 7 letters of the alphabet, one sound for each. Digraphs and trigraphs. Reading captions, sentences and questions. On completion of this phase, children will have learnt the "simple code", i.e. one grapheme for each phoneme in the English language (see next slide).
<i>Phase Four</i> (Reception)	No new sounds are taught. Children learn to blend and segment longer words with adjacent consonants, e.g. swim, clap, jump.
<i>Phase Five</i> (Throughout Year 1)	Alternative spellings and pronunciations for sounds already known.
<i>Phase Six</i> (Throughout Year 2 and beyond)	Working on spelling, including prefixes and suffixes. Learning spelling rules e.g. doubling and dropping letters



The 'simple code' of the English language

s sat	t tap	p pan	n nose	m mat	a ant	e egg	i ink	o otter
g goat	d dog	ck click	r run	h hat	u up	ai rain	ee knee	igh light
b bus	f farm	l lolly	j jam	v van	oa boat	oo cook	oo boot	ar star
w wish	x axe	y yell	z zap	qu quill	or fork	ur burn	ow now	oi boil
ch chin	sh ship	th think	th the	ng sing	ear near	air stair	ure sure	er writer



Phonemes are taught in the following order:

Phase 2

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

Set 6: j, v, w, x

Set 7: y, z, zz, qu

Consonant digraphs: ch, sh, th, ng

Vowel digraphs: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo,
ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

Children are also taught the letter names alongside their sounds e.g. A and /a/



THE ALPHABET RAP

A-B

A-B-C

A-B-C-D-E-F-G

H-I

H-I-J

H-I-J-K-L-M-N

O-P

O-P-Q

O-P-Q-R-S-T-U

V-W

V-W-X

V-W-X-Y-Z



Blending for Reading

a red hat





Phonics at Luddenden CE

We use a variety of resources to help with the teaching of phonics:

- Phonics Play – online activities, games and resources
- Jolly Phonics – songs with actions
- Alphabet songs and a rap
- Repetition! Repetition! Repetition!



How can you help?

- Ask your child:
“Which sound did you learn today?”
- Practise the Jolly Phonics songs and actions.
- Help your child to learn their Tricky Words.
- Read to, or with, your child every day.
- Help your child complete their homework.