

* Letters and Sounds

Letters and sounds is a six phase phonics teaching programme.

*Phase One

Phase One is designed to help children to:

- Listen attentively
- Improve vocabulary
- Speak confidently
- Discriminate phonemes
- Reproduce audibly the phonemes they hear

*Phase Two

Up to 6 weeks

Start of systematic phonic work:
The Grapheme–Phoneme Correspondence (GPC)

Phoneme = smallest unit of **sound**

There are **44** phonemes!

Grapheme = **symbol** of a phoneme

These are made using the 26 letters

**Pronouncing the phonemes correctly
is very important!**

*Phase Two

Up to 6 weeks

Blending for reading:

Recognise and say the letter sounds in a written word, for example: s-a-t and then 'blending' them in the order in which they are written to pronounce the word 'sat'

Segmenting for spelling:

Breaking a word down into the individual sounds to spell.

Tricky words: the, to, go, I and no.

**The children learn 19 phonemes
(not in alphabetical order!)**

*Phase Three

12 weeks

Children will learn another 25 graphemes, most represented by more than 1 letter.

DIGRAPHS – 2 letters that make 1 sound

ll ss zz oa ai

TRIGRAPHS – 3 letters that make 1 sound

igh air

Children continue to blend and segment CVC words and use this knowledge to blend and segment two syllable words.

Tricky words: he, she, we, me, be, was, my, you, her, they, all, are

*Segmenting Activity

How many phonemes in each word?

*shelf sh - e - l - f 4 phonemes

*dress d - r - e - ss 4 phonemes

*sprint s - p - r - i - n - t 6 phonemes

*string s - t - r - i - ng 5 phonemes

*light l - igh - t 3 phonemes

*Blending Activity

Nonsense words

*doit

d - oi - t

*poat

p - oa - t

*gair

g - air

*morck

m - or - ck

*sowd

s - ow - d

*Phase Four

4 – 6 weeks

By Phase 4 children are able to represent 42 phonemes by a grapheme.

Phase 4 is a consolidation of children's knowledge. Children are encouraged to practice blending for reading and segmenting for spelling of adjacent consonants.

Tricky words: said, have, like, so, do, some, come, were, there, little, one, when, out, what

*Phase Five

Throughout year one

Children will broaden their knowledge of graphemes and phonemes:

Most phonemes can be spelled in more than one way: /ee/ → **f****ee**t, s**ea**, h**e**, ch**ie**f

Most graphemes can represent more than one phoneme: y → /y/, /i/, /igh/, /ee/
yes, g**y**m, fl**y**, ver**y**

*Phase Six

Throughout year 2

- Children working at phase six can read hundreds of words automatically.
- Children can decode words quickly and silently.
- Children's spelling should be phonemically accurate.
- During this phase children become fluent readers and increasingly accurate spellers.

*** Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.
For example...**

- I spy...
- Use sound cards to make words (real & nonsense ones) sounding them out.
- Make duplicate sounds and play pairs or matching games.
- Stick sounds on items that start with that letter sound.
- At home, on car journeys, outings ask children to find as many things they can that start with a sound chosen.
- Let them hear sounds... sound talk to them. “Fetch me your c-oa-t”!

*** Please ensure you use the correct pronunciation for the sounds!**

*** Read as much as possible to and with your child.**

*** Encourage and praise – get them to have a ‘good guess’.**

The background features a series of concentric circles in shades of light blue and white, centered around a bright, glowing light source that creates a lens flare effect. The overall color palette is soft and airy, with a gradient from light blue at the edges to a pale yellow/white near the center.

***Thank you!**

*The Phonics Check

In June all Year One children will be expected to undertake a phonics check. The aim is to check that a child is making progress in phonics.

If a child has not reached the expected standard we will ensure that additional support is given to help your child progress in year 2.