

# Aims

1. Explain how phonics is taught in Foundation Stage.
2. Demonstrate the way we say letter sounds.
3. Provide you with some ideas and activities for home.

# 5 Basic Skills

1. Learning the letter sounds
2. Blending sounds to read a word
3. Identifying sounds in words (segmenting)
4. Letter formation
5. Tricky words

# Saying the sounds

- Your child will be taught how to pronounce the sounds (phonemes) correctly to make blending easier
- Sounds should be sustained where possible (eg, sss, mmm, fff)
- If not, 'uh' sounds after consonants should be reduced where possible (eg, try to avoid saying 'b-uh', 'c-uh')

# Blending

- The separate sounds (phonemes) are spoken aloud, in order, all through the word, and are then merged together into the whole word.
- The merging is called **blending**, and is a vital skill for reading.
- Eg: c-a-t = cat

# Segmenting

- Children will also learn to do this the other way round. Eg: cat = c-a-t
- The whole word is spoken aloud and then broken up into its sounds (phonemes) in order, through the word.
- This is called **segmenting**, and is a vital skill for spelling.

# Learning the letter sounds

- s a t p
- i n m d
- g o c k
- ck e u r
- h b f,ff l,ll ss
- j v w x
- y z,zz qu

# CVC Challenge!

- How many words can you make with our first 6 letters?

s

a

t

p

i

n

# digraphs

( 2 letters making one sound)

- ch sh th ng
- ai ee igh oa
- oo ar ur ow
- oi er

trigraphs:

- ear air ure



How many phonemes?

bright

church

hair

shower

crack

ス

# Cursive letter formation

a b c d e f g  
h i j k l m n  
o p q r s t u  
v w x y z

# Pencil Hold



- Tripod grip
- 'Froggy legs' movement



# Tricky words

- Your child will also learn to read and write tricky words; those that cannot be sounded out
- Eg: **the, to, I, go, no**

# How can I help?

- Sing an alphabet song together
- Play 'I spy'
- Continue to play with magnetic letters, using some two-grapheme (letter) combinations, eg: *r-ai-n = rain* blending for reading  
*rain = r-ai-n* segmenting for spelling
- Praise your child for trying out words
- Keep a list of tricky words
- Create phonic games with a timer
- Play pairs

# Blending to read

- If children are unsure when reading a word give them the sound that they are struggling with and encourage them to use this to blend.
- For example,
- goat - if children read /g/ /o/ /a/ /t/, remind them that /o/ and /a/ together makes the /oa/ sound and encourage them to blend these three sounds together.

# Reading Books

- Reading Books practise **phonics** and **tricky words**.
- Children will also use other important reading strategies such as **contextual** and **pictorial** clues.
- Children need to learn to use a combination of all these strategies in order to read and understand an unfamiliar text.



The most important thing with children's early writing is understanding that getting the correct sound is more important than writing it with the correct letter/s.

I Went        hors ried in  
that wos      fulk.

# Top Tips

1. Little and often is the way forward with knowing all the sounds.
2. Praise children for good phonetic spelling attempts.
3. Most importantly reading and writing should be fun and meaningful!!!
  - Christmas lists
  - Postcards
  - Letters
  - Stories

# How can I help?

Recommended website  
to visit:

[www.jollylearning.co.uk](http://www.jollylearning.co.uk)

This website will play the  
sounds for you!

# Typical phonics session – (15 minutes)

- Revisit / Review

Practising what we have previously learned.

- Teach

Teacher modelling new skill.

- Practise

Playing a game.

- Apply

Using what we have learned to read and/or write.

Come and watch the children in  
action!

Tuesday

26<sup>th</sup> September

9.00 – 9.15