

A Parent Guide to

Phase 1 Phonics

For Ages 3 - 4

What Is This Guide?

What do we mean by 'Phase 1 Phonics'? In the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (known as EYFS), there are some expectations laid out for how children generally develop in the ways they write and read. The method most widely used is called phonics. This guide can help you to understand what development might look like for your child and how you can help them.

This guide breaks down the phonics into its simple sections, providing you with explanations of what reading and writing might look like for your child at this stage of their learning. Each area provides ideas for supporting your child with fun and engaging activities, whether your child is beginning to recognise more sounds within their environment or they are becoming more confident with forming some letters.

Rather than a list of must-do activities, you can dip in and out of these prompts and ideas based on your child's current interests and appropriate stage of development.

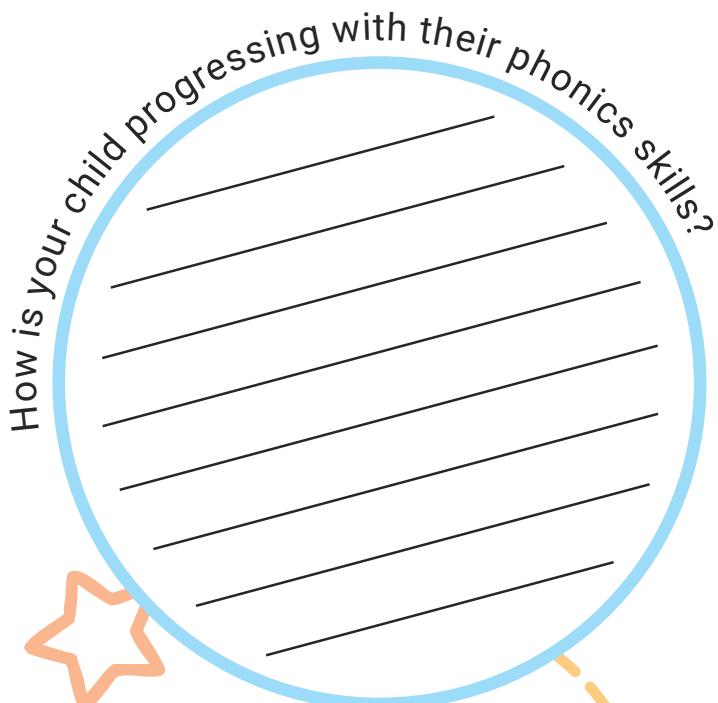
You can visit the **parent section** of the Twinkl site for even more resources to support your child in phonics development, as well as all other areas of learning. Either search for keywords used in this guide or explore more in the early years section.



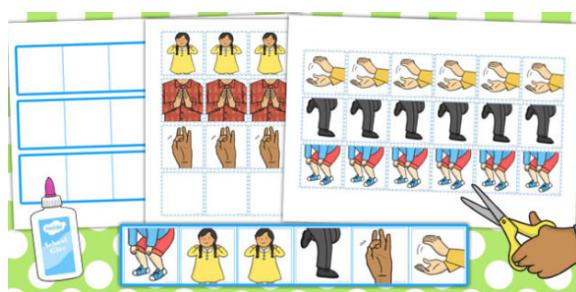
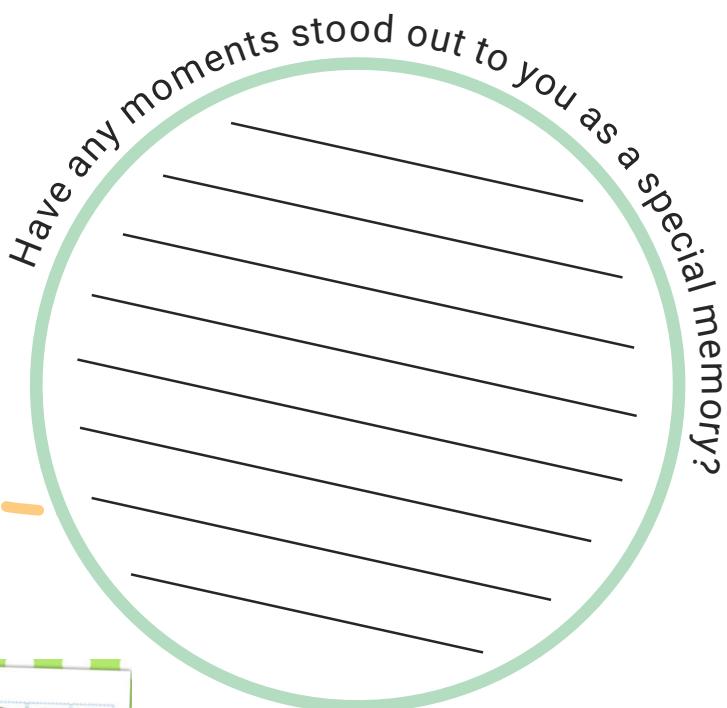
Children develop rapidly in their first five years, more so than any other period of their young life. Although these guides have been divided by age band, we recognise that all children develop at different rates. This guide should not be used as a tick list of exactly what your child should be able to do at this age, but rather as an indicator of what they may be working towards.

Phase 1 Phonics

Phase 1 is the first phase that will be taught to children at nursery; this phase focuses on developing children's speaking, listening and awareness of sound. Developing these skills creates foundations for when children begin to learn their letters and sounds in later phases. During this phase, your child will begin to distinguish between different sounds within their environment and may begin to show an awareness of rhyme and alliteration.



Musical Instrument Video PowerPoint



Composing Body Percussion Patterns Resource Pack

Phase 1 Phonics

Felix's Phase 1 Phonics Silly Soup Rhyming Activity

Silly soup is a fun way to practise lots of different phonics skills. All you need is a bit of imagination and a bit of fun! You can help Felix make silly soup by adding the pictures which share the same sound.

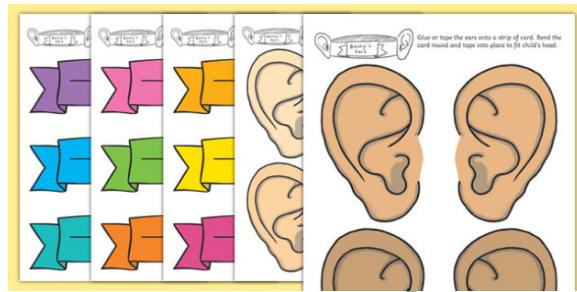
Before you begin:

- Print and cut out the silly soup labels and lay them out on a flat surface.
- Print and cut out the silly soup bowl picture or use a bowl from your own kitchen.
- Print and cut out the silly soup spoon.

To play the game:

- Begin by singing the silly soup song. It's a making lots of silly soup song, so you can make up lots of different things that rhyme with 'soup' and lots of different things that rhyme with 'spoon'.
- Sing the song and lay out one of the picture cards and one silly soup spoon. Ask your child to find another picture that has the same sound as the first one. If they can't find another picture with one of that rhyme, there will be one or two others to find.
- When you have found all the rhyming picture cards, use a spoon to 'test' the soup. If it's too salty, add a spoonful of water. If it's too watery, add a spoonful of salt. If it's just right, you can sing or say this rhyme: 'We've made lots of silly soup, we've made lots of silly soup, we've made lots of silly soup, we've found words that rhyme with spoon!'
- Repeat this activity with different rhyming sets.

Felix's Phase 1 Silly Soup Rhyming Activity



Sound Walk Ear Head Bands

Go on a listening walk. Sounds are all around us, why not go on a listening walk with your child and try to identify the different sounds that you hear along the way?

Print off or draw a range of familiar pictures for your child to look at and say. Practice listening for the initial sounds in words and see if you can match two pictures that start with the same sound! For example, dog, duck and dinosaur all begin with the 'd' sound and snake, soup and sock all start with the 's' sound.

Loud

Quiet

Five Little Monkeys

Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

The Noisy Animals in the Jungle Song
(Sing to the tune of 'The Wheels on the Bus')

Jingle Dangle Scarecrow

includes backing music!

Loud and Quiet Songs and Rhymes PowerPoints Pack

Body Percussion Rainstorm

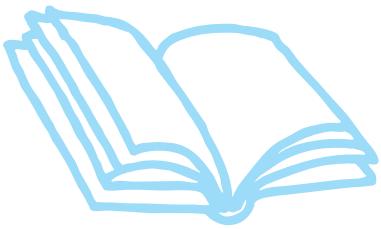
This great body percussion activity is perfect for children of all ages and it really does sound like a rainstorm. It works best with a group of five or more people. The sounds start off very quiet and build up to a noisy storm. Then, as the storm passes, the volume goes back down from loud to quiet.

1. Rub hands together.
2. Click fingers.
3. Pat thighs softly.
4. Pat thighs louder.
5. Clap softly.
6. Clap louder.
7. During loud clapping, make thunder sounds (vibrant thumps, crackling, etc.).
8. Clap softly.

Body Percussion Rainstorm Activity

Initial Sound Picture Square Peg Labels

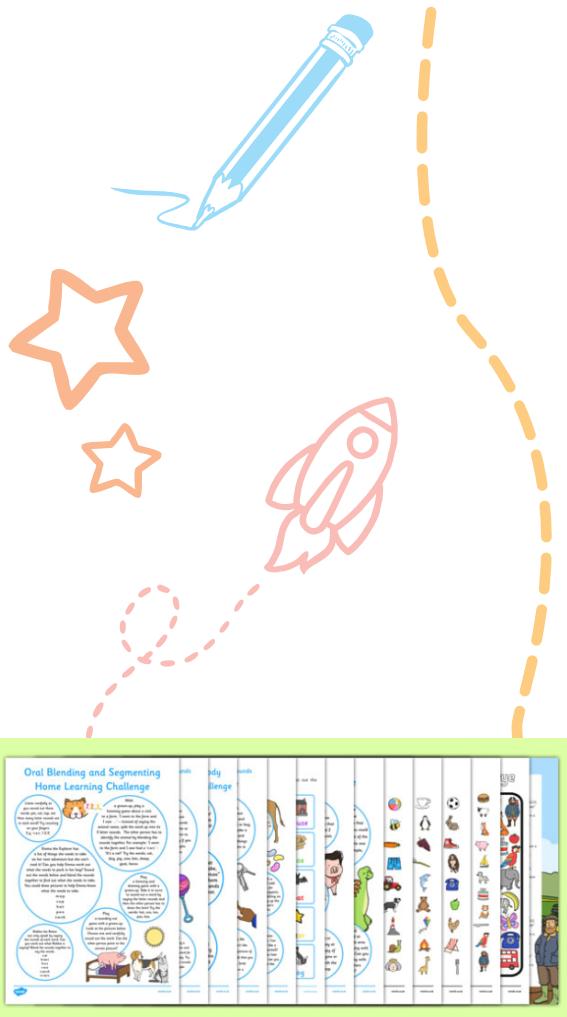
Phase 1 Phonics



Level 1 Phonics The Zoo Environmental Sounds Game



Voice Sounds Sensory Bin and Resource Pack



Phase 1 Aspect 7: Oral Blending and Segmenting Home Learning Challenges Reception FS2



Phase 1 Phonics: Environmental Sounds Sensory Bin Ideas

Putting objects in a 'feely' bag and playing a guessing game can be lots of fun. Fill a bag or pillowcase with a handful of items from around the home, such as a toothbrush, comb, teddy, spoon and building block, then get your child to reach inside and pull one out. Can they say what the item is, and recognise and identify its initial sound? "t, t, teddy!" "s, s, sock."

Progress Page

It's always exciting to see progress in the way our children read and write. It's also important to remember special memories and achievements, even if they can't be ticked off from a learning checklist. Use this page to record some of the special moments you've had with your little one while learning about phonics.



Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!



Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire children from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.

