

# Phonics Workshop



What is phonics?

How is my child taught phonics?

How can I help my child to read and write at home?

# What Is Phonics?

The teaching of reading and spelling by breaking down words into the smallest unit of sound.

## **Systematic Synthetic Phonics Programme**

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, the children are taught to read and write following the RedRose Letters and Sounds scheme developed by Lancashire Professional Development Service.

- This programme teaches children to decode (break down) words into their smallest units of sound (phonemes) step by step. Phonics, taught in a structured way, is generally accepted to be the most effective way to teach reading and writing.

# Did You Know...?

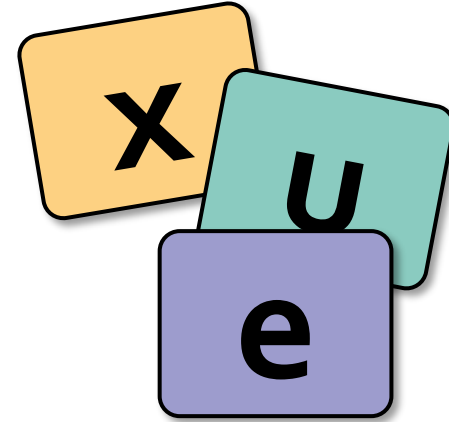
The English language has:

**26 letters**

**44 sounds**

**over 100 ways to spell those sounds**

It is one of the most complex languages to learn to read and spell.



# How Is Phonics Taught ?

Phonics is taught in 20-minute sessions, 5 mornings a week. Sessions are fast paced and follow a structure. We use a multisensory approach in Reception.

The teaching of phonics is divided into four phases, from Phase 2 to Phase 5

# Phase 2

Children will learn their first 19 phonemes:

**Phoneme** - Any one of the 44 sounds which make up words in the English language.

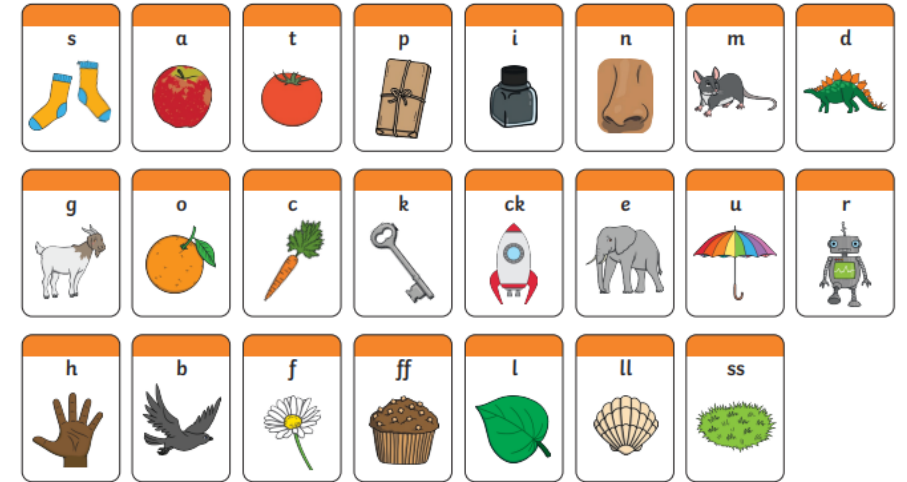
**Pure Sound** - Pronouncing each letter sound clearly and distinctly without adding additional sounds to the end e.g. 'f' not 'fuh'.

**Grapheme** – How a phoneme is written down. There can be more than one way to spell a phoneme. For example, the phoneme 'ai' is spelt differently in each of the words 'way', 'make', 'fail', 'great', 'sleigh' and 'lady'.

**Blending** – Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it, e.g. s – a – t = sat.

**Segmenting** – Breaking a word into its constituent sounds in order to spell them, e.g. sat=s – a – t'.

## My Phase 2 Sound Mat

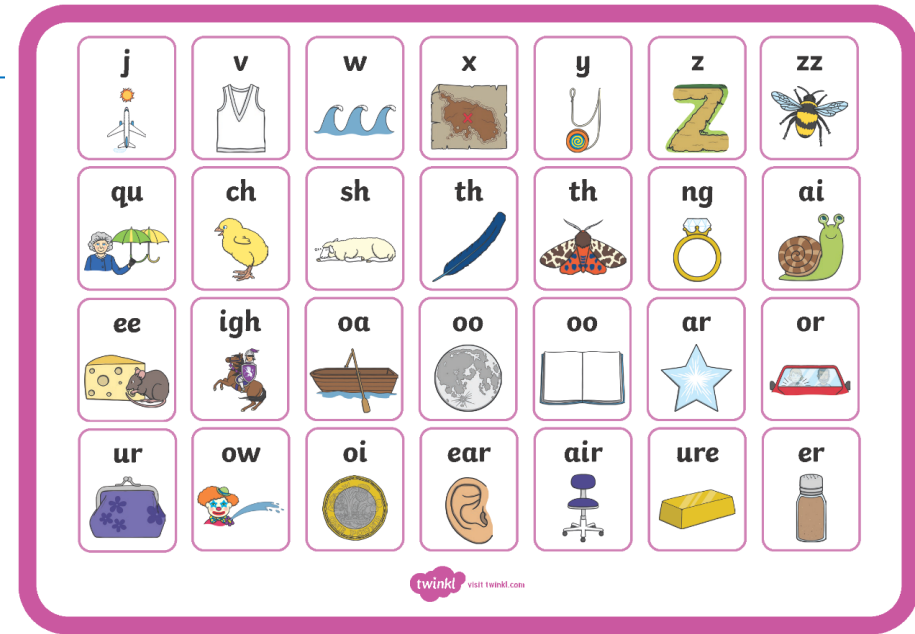


# Phase 3

The purpose of this phase is to teach another 25 graphemes, most of them digraphs (e.g. oa), so the children can represent 42 phonemes by a grapheme. Children also continue to practise CVC blending and segmentation in this phase and will apply their knowledge of blending and segmenting to reading and spelling simple two-syllable words and captions.

**Digraph-** Two letters which go together to make one sound e.g. ch, ar, or

**Trigraph-** Three letters which go together to make one sound e.g. ear, air, igh



## Phase 4

The purpose of this phase is to consolidate children's knowledge of graphemes in reading and spelling words containing adjacent consonants e.g. st, sp, tr, br, spr, str in words such as string, blow, train.

Children will learn to read and spell polysyllabic words and sentences.

# Phase 5

**Further Graphemes for Reading  
and Writing e.g. ea (eat)**

**Alternative Pronunciations for  
Graphemes** the correct grapheme for  
spelling. **ow** (snow)

**Alternative Spellings for Phonemes**

/ee/ **ee** (street) **ea** (cream) **ie** (field) **e-e** (swede) **y** (baby) **e** (remind) **ey** (key)

## Y1 Phonics Reading Check

In June, all year 1 children are expected to complete the year 1 phonics screening check.  
The aim is to check that a child is making progress in phonics. They are expected to read a mixture of real words and 'nonsense' words.





# Tricky words

## Phase 2 Tricky Words

the

to

I

no

go

into

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## Phase 3 Tricky Words

you

they

all

are

my

her

he

she

we

me

be

was

twinkl.com

## Phase 4 Tricky Words

said

like

do

come

there

little

out

have

so

some

were

one

when

what

twinkl.com

## Phase 5 Tricky Words

oh

could

their

people

Mr

Mrs

looked

called

asked

twinkl.com

# Do we just teach phonics?

We teach phonics to support children in their decoding skills.

Reading comprehension strategies are taught during 'story time', guided reading and one to one reading sessions. In this time, we introduce The Totally Pawsome Gang.

Writing is also taught through Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle, Dough Disco and Drawing Club.

How can I help my child  
at home?