



Parent Guide to Phase 4 Phonics

Phase 4

During Phase 4 phonics, no new sounds are taught. Children learn to read and write words with adjacent consonants. These words are more difficult to blend and segment as you cannot always hear the sounds easily.

Children will also continue to practise reading 'alien' words. These are made up words and will prepare them for the Phonics screening check at the end of Year 1.

By the end of Phase 4 your child should be able to read and write words that have these adjacent consonants in.

It is important to note that these remain separate sounds e.g.

The word frog has 4 sounds in

frog



They should be able to spell these tricky words.

| | |
|-----|------|
| the | no |
| to | go |
| I | into |

| | | |
|-----|-----|------|
| he | be | was |
| she | you | all |
| we | are | they |
| me | her | my |

They should be able to read these tricky words.

said have like so
do some come
 little one were
there what when
out



These are ideas for activities for Phase 4. To help with pronunciation of sounds you can use the Phonics UK app. You can also find some good interactive games on Phonics Play <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

Teach your Monster to read is an excellent game that you can use on the computer or download onto a device.



Activities to do at home

Tricky word spotter

Write out a tricky word 4 times and turn each piece of paper over. Spell it correctly once and incorrectly three times. Challenge your child to turn the paper over and identify the correct spelling of the tricky word. As an extra challenge do more than one tricky word at a time.

Rub out the Word

On a piece of paper, write down a selection of words. To play, say one of the words out loud. Your child has to find the word as quickly as they can and rub or cross it out. If you want to do this activity outside, you could use chalk to write on the pavement and water or a dustpan to rub the word away.



Snakes and Ladders

Make your own snakes and ladders game using Phase 4 words.

Quickwrite

You say a tricky word or a Phase 4 word. Your child writes it as quickly as they can. Challenge them to see how many they can write correctly in 1 minute.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| flag | spit | clog | drop | slug | stub |
| slip | drag | skid | flop | plus | grab |
| frog | grim | brag | slid | scab | spun |
| plop | blob | bred | plan | slab | slum |
| stop | slim | sled | swim | glad | scum |
| drip | fled | trim | drum | club | siam |
| bled | slob | crop | plum | grub | drop |

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| melt | fact | jump | golf | milk | next | hand | gust |
| bank | husk | pond | soft | limp | kept | gift | camp |
| damp | tuft | lost | lift | tilt | best | hunt | link |
| sink | nest | land | hump | wind | lamp | gulp | felt |
| dent | band | hump | belt | tent | just | help | went |

Vocabulary

- Blend- saying the sounds that make up a word and then saying the sounds together to make a word- this is used for reading
- CVC- abbreviation for consonant, vowel, consonant- used to describe the order of sounds e.g. cat, man, pen are all CVC words. In Phase 4 children learn more complex words that follow the patterns CCVC, CVCC, CCVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC.
- Segment- splitting a word into single sounds- this is used for spelling
- Tricky words- cannot be sounded out due to a 'tricky' element. These words have to be learnt by sight.
- Digraph- two letters that go together to make one sound e.g. ch, sh, th, ng
- Trigraph- 3 letters that go together to make one sound e.g. air, ear, igh
- Adjacent consonants- consonants that are next to each other that make it tricky to hear the sound produced e.g. st, dr, fr, cl