


## Firm Foundations in Phonics 1

General Sound Discrimination \& Phonological Awareness
"The ability to hear the sounds in the words we speak"
No flashcards required
Firm Foundations in Phonics 1 gives children playful daily repeated experience, exposure and enjoyment of General Sound Discrimination (Environmental Sounds, Instrumental Sounds \& Body Percussion) \& Phonological Awareness (Rhythm and Rhyme, Alliteration \& Oral Blending and Segmenting).

In order for a children to be ready for The Basics 1, they would need to demonstrate that they were able to tune in to, listen to and remember and talk about sounds. They would need to be skilled in Rhythm and Rhyme, Alliteration \& Oral Blending and Segmenting before they start to look at the shapes of the letters on flashcards and begin their systematic, synthetic phonics journey.

NB: This Phase does not come to an end and phonological awareness continues from The Basics to The Higher Levels of Phonics and into Spelling Rules and Patterns.

| Firm Foundations in Phonics 1 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| General Sound Discrimination |  | The Strands |
| Aspect 1 | Environment Sounds | - Tuning into sounds (auditory discrimination) <br> - Listening and Remembering sounds (auditory memory and sequencing) <br> - Talking about sounds (developing vocabulary and language comprehension) |
| Aspect 2 | Instrumental Sounds |  |
| Aspect 3 | Body Percussion |  |
|  | Phonological Awareness |  |
| Aspect 4 | Rhythm and Rhyme |  |
| Aspect 5 | Alliteration |  |
| Aspect 6 | Voice Sounds |  |
| Aspect 7 | Oral Blending \& Segmenting |  |



The Basics 2 teaches children at least one spelling for 18 of the 44 sounds of the English language. Children will use their auditory processing and memory skills from Firm Foundations in Phonics 1 to start to recognise the spellings for the sound with Sam, segment and build with Seb and Bill, read and blend with Rex and Ben and write with Ron. They will learn the early concepts of Choose to Use with Suze for a handful of multiple spellings for sounds.

At the end of this Phase children will be able to hear up to 3 sounds in words, recognise spellings and read and write simple CVC words with the 18 spellings for sounds. They will be able to read decodable texts with The Basics 2 spellings and make phonetically plausible attempts in their emerging stages of spelling in their writing journey.


## The Basics 3

## - Recognise, Build, Read and Write

The Basics 3 teaches children the spellings for the further 26 of the 44 sounds of the English language. Children will use their auditory processing and memory skills from Firm Foundations in Phonics 1 and The Basics 2 skills to continue to recognise the spellings for the sound with Sam, segment and build with Seb and Bill, read and blend with Rex and Ben and write with Ron. They will continue to learn the early concepts of Choose to Use with Suze for some further multiple spellings for sounds and an introduction to Switch it with Mitch for alternative pronunciations of spellings for sounds. Children will learn their tricky words with Tess and read nonsense words with Nan.

At the end of this phase children will be able to hear up to 3 sounds in words, recognise spellings and read and write simple and complex CVC words with the 44 spellings for sounds. They will be able to read decodable texts with The Basics 2 and 3 spellings and make phonetically plausible attempts in their early stages of spelling in their writing journey.



The Basics 4 teaches children to be able to hear more than 3 sounds in a word. They will continue to embed their mastery of The Basics 2 and 3 spellings for sounds in words and progress to 4,5 and 6 sounds in a word. They will be supported by Magic Mack and Jazzy Jack who will help them hear the tricky adjacent consonants that are challenging to hear in words of more than 3 sounds. Children will learn their tricky words with Tess and read nonsense words with Nan.

At the end of the this phase, children will be able to hear more than 3 sounds in words, recognise spellings and read and write CVC, CVCC, CCVC, CCVCC, CCCVC words with the 44 spellings for sounds of the English Language. They will be able to read decodeable texts with The Basics 2 and 3 spellings with adjacent consonants and make phonetically plausible attempts in their evolving stages of spelling in their writing journey.


Choose to Use and Switch it
The Higher Levels of Phonics teaches children the concept that there are more than one spelling for a sound that they can hear in a word. With the help of Choose to Use Suze, they will find out all about 'sounds the same but looks different' and cool and not so cool choose to use spelling rules for the 44 sounds of the English Language.

With the help of Switch it Mitch, they will also find out all about 'looks the same, sounds different' and switch it spelling sounds where one spelling can make up to 2 different sounds in words.

Children will learn their tricky words with Tess and read nonsense words with Nan.
At the end of this phase children will be able to choose to use spellings of the 44 sounds in the English Language. They will also be able to switch spellings and sounds for alternative pronunciations. They will be able to read decodeable texts with The Basics to The Higher Levels spellings including adjacent consonants and make more accurate attempts in their further stages of spelling in their writing journey.

The Higher Levels
Tricky Words

## Choose to Use Spellings

| Group 1 | ai and ay | their people Mr Mrs |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ee and ea |  |
| Choose to Use Two | igh and ie |  |
|  | oa and oe |  |
|  | oo and ue |  |
| Group 2 <br> Choose to Use - Split digraph | ai ay and a_e | Oh these friends asked |
|  | ee ea and e_e |  |
|  | igh ie and i_e |  |
|  | oa oe and o_e |  |
|  | oo and ue and $u$-e |  |
| Group 3 | oi and oy | where today once |
|  | ur and ir |  |
| Choose to Use Two A | ow and ou |  |
| $6$ | or and aw |  |
|  | w and wh |  |



The Higher Levels
Tricky Words
Switch it Spell Sounds

| Group 1 <br> Switch It | i | sixth and wild | does goes tall call small laughed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - | frog and old |  |
|  | c | crisp and cement |  |
| Group 2 <br> Switch It | u | underpants and tuba | why over above live please |
|  | ow | clown and yellow |  |
|  | ie | pie and chief |  |
| Group 3 <br> Switch It | a | apple and angel | water because break work |
|  | a | apple angel and watch |  |
|  | ou | mouse and mouldy |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ | frog old and monk |  |
| Group 4 <br> Switch It | $y$ | yellow and cry | who any many move eye |
|  | $y$ | yellow cry and crystal |  |
|  | ch | children and chef |  |
|  | ch | children chef and chorus |  |
|  | ou | mouse mouldy and soup |  |


|  | Autumn 1 | Autumn 2 | Spring 1 | Spring 2 | Summer 1 | Summer 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reception | Phase 1/2 <br> Hear general <br> sound <br> discrimination, identify rhythm, rhyme, alliteration and be able to orally blend and segment simple words. <br> Secure Foundation 1 if needed, then start Basics 2 letter sets (1-3) and tricky words I is the to | Phase 2 <br> Know grapheme phoneme correspondence of 23 letters. <br> Groups 1-6 <br> Know highfrequency common words I, is, the, to, go, no, has, his, as, of, into | Phase 2 <br> Consolidate skills as in Autumn 2. <br> Letters group 1-6 <br> Know tricky words - $I$, is, the, to, go, no, has, his, as, of, into <br> Some children moving to Phase 3 where appropriate letter sets 1-7 | Phase 2/3 <br> Consolidate Phase 2 skills. <br> Begin Basics 3 skills <br> Letter sets 1-7 <br> Know tricky words, her, was, you, he, she, we, me, be, they, my, by, are, all, some, come, so, do, little, out | Phase 3 <br> Consolidate phase 2 and 3 skills. <br> Read tricky words her, was, you, he, she, we, me, be, they, my, by, are, all, some, come, so, do, little, out <br> Continue to apply knowledge of blending and segmenting to reading and spelling simple two-syllable words and captions. <br> Write more graphemes from memory and write a simple sentence using phonic knowledge. | Phase 3/4 <br> Consolidate phase 2 and 3 skills. <br> Read tricky words Read tricky words her, was, you, he, she, we, me, be, they, my, by, are, all, some, come, so, do, little, out <br> Represent each of 44 phonemes by a grapheme and blend phonemes to read CVC words and segment CVC words for spelling. <br> Write longer sentences using phonic knowledge, write digraphs and trigraphs. <br> Some children may be ready to move onto Basics 4 |


|  | Autumn 1 | Autumn 2 | Spring 1 | Spring 2 | Summer 1 | Summer 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 | Basics 4 <br> Groups 1-5 <br> Tricky words: were what like have There here said one house when our your love school then them that this <br> Assess | Higher levels Choose to use spellings <br> Groups 1-6 <br> Tricky words <br> Their <br> People Mr Mrs Oh these friends asked where today once could should would called looked son says want after half only with <br> Assess every 3 weeks | Consolidate Higher levels Choose to use spellings <br> Groups 1-6 <br> Tricky words <br> Their <br> People Mr Mrs Oh these friends asked where today once could should would called looked son says want after half only with <br> Assess every 3 weeks | Higher Levels Switch it Spell Sounds <br> Groups 1-4 <br> Tricky words: does goes tall call small laughed why over above live please water because break work who many move eye <br> Assess every 3 weeks | Consolidate Higher Levels Switch it Spell Sounds <br> Groups 1-4 <br> Tricky words: does goes tall call small laughed why over above live please water because break work who many move eye <br> Assess every 3 weeks | Consolidate Higher levels Choose to use spellings and Higher Levels Switch it Spell Sounds Where there are gaps in knowledge |

