

Year 2

Phase 6 is taught throughout Year 2. This phase focuses on consolidating all of the other phases, as well as introducing 'rules' for reading and spelling, such as prefixes, suffixes and when to double or drop a letter.

Useful Websites

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/> - Has lots of information, printable resources for each of the Letters and Sounds phonic phases, and also links to games aligned with each phase.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl-expert-help/phonics-made-easy>

- Has lots of information and guidance for parents/carers

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ParentsMenu.html> - Offers a selection of interactive games for all phonic phases. Mostly simple games.

www.ictgames.com/literacy.html - Has a great selection of games that link well with games in Letters and Sounds.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/index.shtml> -

Activities for all phases

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/literacy/phonics/index.shtml>

- 'Deep Sea Phonics' game with choice of difficulty (some HFWs, some vowel blends, very varied).

<http://www.bigbrownbear.co.uk/magneticletters/> - Make any words with this useful game.

http://www.phonicsinternational.com/hear_the_sounds/hear_the_sounds_1.htm - Useful page which demonstrates pronunciation of all sounds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksbIMiIA8> - youtube video guide to pronunciation of all sounds.

What do all the terms mean?

Phoneme: the smallest single identifiable sound. For example:

- There are two phonemes in the word *it* (i-t)
- There are three phonemes in the word *shark* (sh-ar-k)
- There are two phonemes in the word *sigh* (s-igh)

Grapheme: a letter or group of letters written down that represent one sound e.g. **s**, **a**, **igh**, **ough** (as in **though**). In a nutshell, children are taught that words are made up of sounds (or phonemes). The different ways that the sounds (or phonemes) are written down are called graphemes.

Diagraph: two letters making one sound e.g. **sh**, **ch**, **th**, **ai**

Split diagraph: two letters split that make one sound e.g. **a_e** as in **cake**

Trigraph: three letters making one sound e.g. **igh**, **ure**

Segmenting and Blending: In order to be able to learn to read, children need to be able to hear the sounds in words. Children are first taught to recognise and say the sounds which is called segmenting and then to blend them together to read the word e.g. **s-a-t: sat**.

CVC words: A consonant-vowel-consonant word (such as m-a-t). Children often start to read with simple consonant-vowel-consonant words (cvc words) such as cat and move on to more complicated words like: flop (ccvc), thump (ccvcc) and multi-syllable words such as rocket and lemon.

Short vowel sounds: The first vowel sounds your child is introduced to in phonics. These include: a (as in apple), e (as in egg), i (as in ink), o (as in orange), u (as in umbrella)

Long vowel sounds: As your child's reading progresses. They will move onto words with long vowel sounds in them such as: **play**, **sight**, **scream**, **horse** and **nice**.

A Parent's Guide Understanding Phonics



What is phonics?

Phonics is the systematic teaching of the sounds, or 'phonemes', that accompany the written letters ('graphemes') in English. It is designed to teach children to become confident and fluent readers by the end of Year 2.

All children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 have a 20 minute phonics session every day introducing them to new sounds and practising sounds that they are already familiar with.

At Robert Blair, we follow 'Letters and Sounds', a document published by the Department for Education. It is broken down into 6 parts, or 'phases'.

Nursery

Phase 1 is completed in Nursery and is split up into 7 aspects

Aspect One: Environmental Sounds

Aspect Two: Instrumental Sounds

Aspect Three: Body Percussion

Aspect Four: Rhythm and Rhyme

Aspect Five: Alliteration

Aspect Six: Voice Sounds

Aspect Seven: Oral blending and segmenting

Reception

Phase 2 begins in Reception. Children are taught 19 letters of the alphabet along with the sound that goes with them.

Five sets of letters are introduced – one set per week

Set 1: s, a, t, p

Set 2: i, n, m, d

Set 3: g, o, c, k

Set 4: ck, e, u, r

Set 5: h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss



Phase 3 is also started in Reception. During this phase, the remaining 7 letters of the alphabet and their sounds are taught. Digraphs (where two letters make one sound) eg. /sh/ for ship are taught in this phase for the remaining sounds in the English language.

Set 6: j, v, w, x

Set 7: y, z, zz, qu

Consonant digraphs: ch, sh, th, ng

Vowel digraphs: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

Phase 4, children are taught to segment (break down) and blend (read fluently) longer words. Phase 4 is a chance for children to practise and apply the phonics skills they have already learnt.

Year 1

Phase 5 is taught throughout Year 1 and focuses on introducing new graphemes and then different ways of spelling the same sound eg. /oi/ and /oy/ and different ways of pronouncing the graphemes they already know eg. /ear/ in 'hear' and /ear/ in 'bear'.

Diagraphs: wh, ph, ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, ew, oe, au

Split digraphs: a_e, e_e, i_e, o_e, u_e



Year 1 phonics screening check

At the end of Year 1, children will undertake a statutory phonics screening check. This is a short assessment to make sure that children have learnt phonics to an appropriate standard.

There are 40 words in the screening check which children are asked to read on a one-to-one basis with their teacher. The check is made up of 'real words' (eg. 'mud') and 'non-words' (eg. 'splog') and children need

 ect	 shog
 jat	 stip
 yod	 bulm
 keb	 quock
 toin	 voisk

to apply their phonics knowledge to read all words.