

Phonics Information

Terminology:

Phoneme - unit of sound e.g. a, ee

Grapheme - the written form of a phoneme e.g. ai, ay

Segmenting - breaking up a word into its sounds

Blending - Putting the sounds together to read a word

Diagraph - two letters making one sound. e.g. ai, ee, oa

Trigraph - three letters making one sound. e.g. igh, air

Split digraph - has a letter that splits the two letters in the digraph e.g. late, cake.

Syllable - unit of pronunciation, having one vowel sound. e.g. egg (1 syllable), phonics (2 syllables: phon/ics)

Consonant blend - two/three consonants joined together and the letter sounds are blended together. E.g. bl, str, nd, mp

Alternative grapheme - different ways of writing a phoneme e.g. ai, ay, a-e

Alternative pronunciations - different ways of saying a phoneme e.g. fin/find

Phase 2 - letter sounds

s	a	t	p	i	n	m	d	g	o
c	k	ck	e	u	r	h	b	f	ff
l	ll	ss							

Phase 3 - remaining letter sounds, diagraphs and trigraphs. There is a word example in each box to help with pronunciation of the phoneme.

j	v	w	x	y	z	zz	qu	ch	sh
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								chair	shop
th thin	th this	ng ring	ai rain	ee feet	igh sight	oa goat	oo (long) moon	oo (short) look	ar cart
or fork	ur fur	ow down	oi coin	ear hear	air pair	ure sure	er supper		

Phase 4 - Reading and writing words with initial and final consonant blends. The blend list is not exhaustive but give you some examples. Reading and writing words with more than one syllable.

Initial blends

sp spear	tw twirl	str street	br bring	cr crash	dr green	dr drop	tr train	st start	sl slip
thr threw	fl flop	fr from	bl blue	gl glass	cl clap	pl plan	scr scrap	sm smell	pr pram

Final blends

ft theft	nk think	mp champ	nd hand	st boost	nt burnt	pt kept	lk milk	ff shelf	lp help
lt tilt	sk task	xt next	nch bench						

Syllables

Reading and writing words with 1 or more syllables.

We teach the children to break the word up into syllable and then blend each part for reading or sound out each part for spelling.

1 word syllable Mum Hair	2-word syllable Repeat - re/peat Oyster - oys/ter
3-word syllable Astronaut - as/tron/aut	4-word syllable Automatic - au/to/ma/tic

Chimpanzee - chim/pan/zee

Alternative Graphemes

Here is a list of the alternative graphemes taught to the children. In brackets we have matched the grapheme with the phase 2/3 phoneme that they have already been taught.

ay (ai) clay	ou (ow) cloud	ie (igh) pie	ea (ee) treat	oy (oi) joy	ir (ur,er) girl	ue (long oo) clue	ue (yoo) due	aw (or) paw	wh (w) when
wh (h) who	ph (f) phone	ew (long oo) blew	ew (yoo) stew	oe (oa) toe	au (or) Paul	ey (ee) jockey			
a-e (ai) came	e-e (ee) even	i-e (igh) time	o-e (oa) bone	u-e (long oo) flute	u-e (yoo) tube				

Alternative Pronunciations

Below is a copy of the graphemes that have alternative pronunciations. In brackets we have highlighted the pronunciation for that grapheme.

a			
hat (a)	acorn (ai)	father (ar)	was (o)
e			
bed (e)	She (ee)		
i			
tin (i)	kind (igh)		
o			
hot (o)	no (oa)		
u			
but (u)	music (yoo)		

ow			
down (ow)		snow (oa)	
ie			
pie (ie)		chief (ee)	
ea			
seat (ee)		head (e)	
ou			
out (ow)	you (long oo)	could (u)	mould (o)
y			
yet (y)	sky (igh)	mystery (i)	funny (ee)
ch			
chip (ch)	chemist (c)	chef (sh)	
c			
cat (c)		icy (s)	
g			
got (g)		giant (j)	
ey			
money (ee)		grey (ai)	

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