



St Helen's CE Primary School

EYFS/KS1 Phonics and
Reading
Information Evening

READING IN THE EARLY YEARS

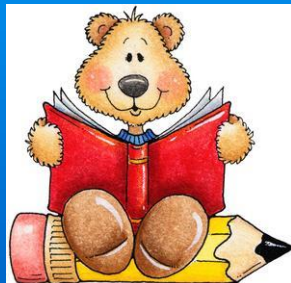
Reading requires two skills:

Phonics and Word

Recognition

Understanding

- The ability to recognise words presented in and out of context
- The ability to blend phonemes (letter sounds) together to read words
- The ability to understand the meaning of the words and sentences in a text
- The ability to understand the ideas, information and themes in a text



Letters and Sounds

Have a go!

- There are about 44 phonemes:

b/k/d/f/g/h/j/l/m/n/p/r/s/t/v/w/y/z/sh/ch/

th_{/th}

/ng/zh/a/e/i/o/u/ai/ee/igh/oa/**oo**/oo/ar/

or/ur

/ow/oi/air/ear/ure/



What is Phonics?

- Phonics is a method for teaching reading and writing by developing the ability to hear, identify and manipulate sounds (*phonemes*).
- All sounds correlate to a written form (*grapheme*) which helps children with their spelling.
- The goal of phonics is to enable children to decode new words by sounding them out (*segmenting*) and putting the sounds together (*blending*) to read the word.
- Phonics is taught in phases...
 - Reception focus on Phases 1, 2, 3 & 4
 - Y1 focus on Phases 3, 4 & 5 and alternative spellings and pronunciations.

Letters and Sounds Phase 1

- Developing speaking and listening skills which are of priority to make a good start to reading and writing

The phase includes:

- distinguishing between sounds in the environment, instrumental and body percussion
- Showing an awareness of rhyme, rhythm and alliteration
- Oral blending and segmenting



Phonics Vocabulary

Phoneme:

The smallest unit of sound



Grapheme:

The written form of the sound.

h a t



Phonics Vocabulary

Digraph:

A grapheme containing two letters that makes just one sound.



r a n



Phonics Vocabulary

Split digraph:

A grapheme containing two letters that makes just one sound. However, the digraph is split by a consonant.



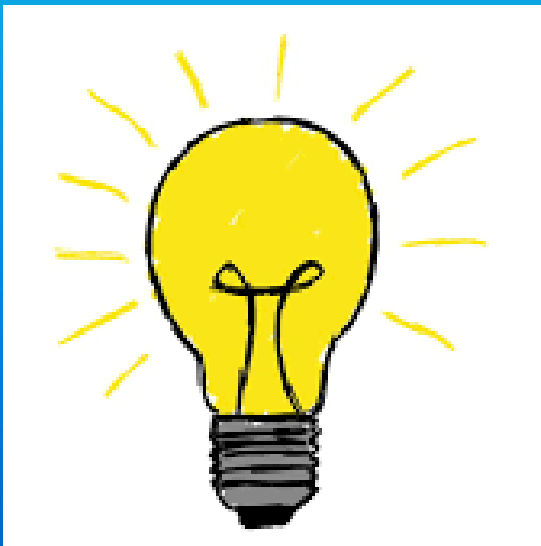
cake



Phonics Vocabulary

Trigraph:

A grapheme containing three letters that makes just one sound.



light



Phonics for Reading

Segmenting:

Splitting an unknown word in to separate sounds using their phonic knowledge.

Blending:

Merging the sounds together to make a word.



Sound Buttons

t a p
● ● ●

c o i n
● — ●

b i k e
● ◡ ●



Phonics for Spelling

- The children also need to use their phonic knowledge when spelling.
- This is a particular focus in Y1 and Y2.
- In phase 5 children will begin to learn different ways of writing the same phoneme (sound).
- These are called sound families...

a ai ay a-e eigh ey



Keywords

- Keywords are words that appear frequently in books and are used regularly in sentence.
- These are words where phonic knowledge doesn't always apply.
- These are words that children need to know by sight and shouldn't need to segment.

the in to I called looked people



How do we teach Phonics?

- In reception and Y1 we teach phonics using actions to help the children remember the phonemes. These are from the Jolly Phonics scheme.
- During lesson we use the Letters and Sounds framework for teaching new phonemes.
- This follows a review, teach, practise, apply method.



Y1 Phonics Screening

- All Y1 children across the country are required to sit the National Phonics Screening test. This happens in June.
- The aim of the screening check is to test the children's ability to apply phonics when reading.
- This will include a mix of 40 real and 'alien' words. The children will need to segment and blend these words correctly.

slow

night



How you can help your child at home!

- When hearing your child read and helping them write, encourage them to segment and blend words using their phonic knowledge. Use the sound mat provided to help!
- Practise reading and spelling keywords as much as possible.
- www.phonicsplay.co.uk

Practise writing letters in different ways

- In water, perhaps you could write it in the bath tub!
- In sand, salt, shaving foam, playdough...
- In the air writing it as big as you can
- On the palm of your hand, on a person's back
- With various implements: ribbons, chalk, writing pencil, felt tip pens, glitter pens ...
- In a notebook, on post-its, on a chalkboard, blackboard, whiteboard... In whatever way engages your child and fits into your home life

Helpful hints for reading at home

- Make reading visible; have books available in your home
- Share books every day
- Choose a quiet time and give your child your full attention
- Boys need to see that reading is something men do
- Important to show your child that you have good feelings and memories about reading
- Explain the meaning of new words
- Talk about the text using open questions

Open Questions

Avoid closed questions such as:

- Do you like this book?
- Do you like this character?
- It's a good story isn't it?
- Do you like reading?
- Are you good at reading?
- Do you like this kind of story?

Change these to open questions:

- What do you like about this book?
- What do you think of this character?
- Why do you think this is a good story?
- What's great about reading?
- Why are you a good reader?
- What is it about these stories that you like so much?

What to do if your child is stuck

whilst trying to read a word

- Use phonics first. What sound does the word begin with? Can you say the sounds in the word? Blend them together.
- Read to the end of the sentence. What would make sense?
- What is the text about – what might fit here? Does it sound right? Look at the picture. Does it help?



Thank you for
listening!

If you have any
questions please come
and ask!

