



# Phonics and Reading in Year One

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Mrs Archer

# What is phonics?

- This is the way that most children in the UK will be taught how to read
- Synthetic phonics – sounds taught in order, blended together to read a word
- ELS is the scheme that we use
- 5 Phases
- Harder to read and spell words



# Phonics Terminology

**systematic synthetic phonics** - The teaching of reading and spelling by breaking down words into the smallest unit of sound.

**phoneme** - Any one of the 44 sounds which make up words in the English language.

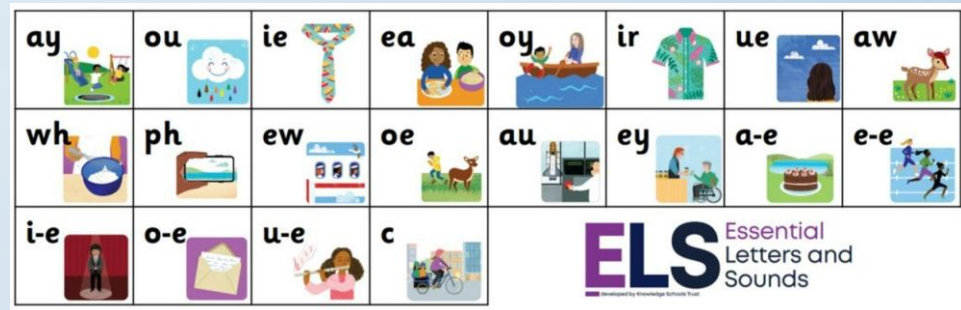
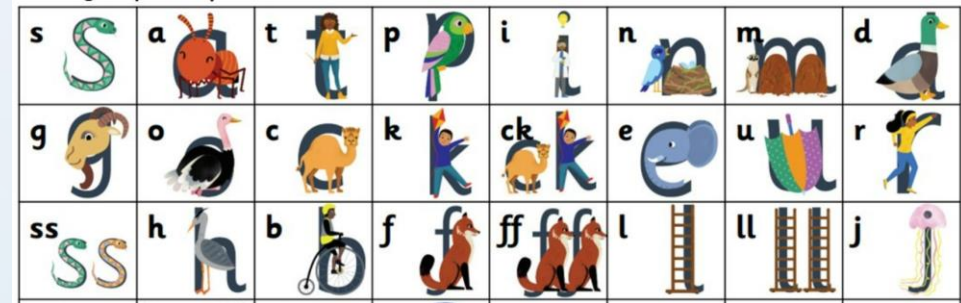
**grapheme** – How a phoneme is written down. There can be more than one way to spell a phoneme. For example, the phoneme 'ai' is spelt differently in each of the words 'way', 'make', 'fail', 'great', 'sleigh' and 'lady'.

**blending** – Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it, e.g. 'f – r – o – g, frog'.

**segmenting** – Breaking a word into its constituent sounds in order to spell them, e.g. 'frog, f – r – o – g'.

# Essential Letters and Sounds

- Phase 1— listening skills—hearing rhymes, alliteration, exploring words, sounds, clapping syllables, environmental sounds and instrumental sounds.
- Phase 2 and 3— learning single and common digraphs and trigraphs.
- Phase 4—blending and reading longer words using Phase 2 and 3 sounds, e.g. b-r-ow-n, s-t-ar-t-ed, s-p-r-i-ng
- Phase 5a—These sounds are introduced in the Summer term of Reception as a taster for Year 1. These are known as alternative sounds e.g. ai and ay, they are consolidated in the Autumn of Year 1.
- Phase 5b— These are alternative sounds to the learnt sounds in 5a. The children will be able to decide which sound it is making when reading and which grapheme to record when writing. This is where we are now in Spring 1.



# Harder to read and spell words





## ELS Harder to Read and Spell Words

Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
I the no put of is to go into as his	he she buses we me be push was her my you they all are ball tall	when what said so have were out like some come there little one do children love	oh their people Mr Mrs your ask should would could asked house mouse water want very here sugar friend because

# Phonics Screening Check

- The Phonics Screening Check takes place across the country for children in Year One
- This year, it will be carried out in the week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024
- Each child will be shown 40 words, 20 are real words and 20 are pseudo words (alien words)
- The pass mark is usually 32 but this is subject to change
- Pass or fail

27/02/2024

Section 2		Section 2	
brend		label	
throst		vanish	
stret		blossom	
spraw		thankful	





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# What we do in school

**Teach**

These words all have the grapheme <a> in them.

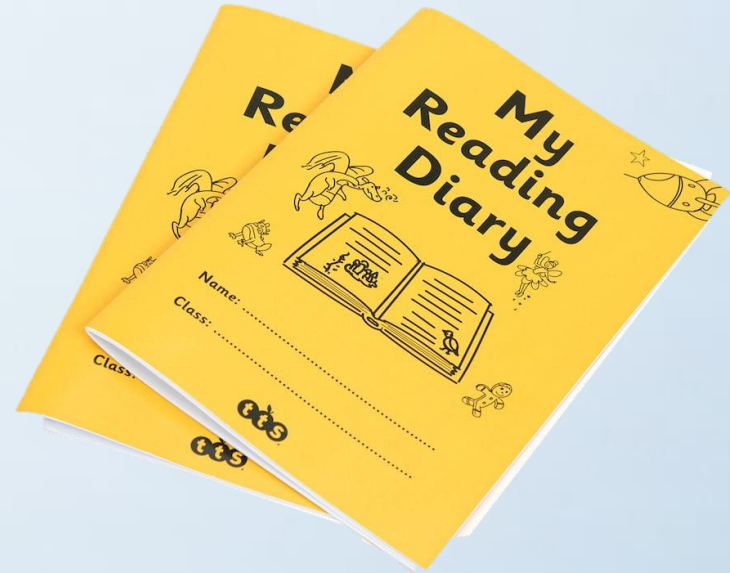


a ... a ... acorn  
a ... a ... table  
a ... a ... stable

- Daily reading as much as possible
- ELS phonics session every day – Review, Teach, Practise, Apply
- Targeted intervention based on assessment data
- Encouraging a love of reading (reading for pleasure)
- Rewards for reading
- Sound buttons
- Robot arms

# What you can do at home

- Reading phonetically decodable book as much as possible (every day is ideal but four times minimum for book to be changed)
- Writing in reading diary
- Encouraging love of reading by sharing stories and books at bedtime
- Sounding words out together
- Note – if your child cannot blend a word, or is unsure of a sound, give them a chance to try and then help them





# Useful links and websites

- Phase 2, 3 and 5 sounds including rhymes are in handout
- ELS web page - [Essential Letters and Sounds - Oxford Owl](#)
- Phonics Play – [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

