



Together We Inspire and Achieve

Phonics

At WSL School, we follow the Read Write Inc Programme developed by Ruth Miskin.

The Terminology

Phoneme

A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word. It is generally accepted that most varieties of spoken English use about 44 phonemes.

Graphemes

A grapheme is a symbol of a phoneme. It is a letter or group of letters representing a sound.

Segmenting and blending

Segmenting consists of breaking words down into phonemes to spell. Blending consists of building words from phonemes to read. Both skills are important.

Digraph

This is when two letters come together to make a phoneme. For example, /oa/ makes the sound in 'boat' and is also known as a **vowel digraph**. There are also **consonant digraphs**, for example, /sh/ and /ch/.

Trigraph

This is when three letters come together to make one phoneme, for example /igh/.

Split digraph

A digraph in which the two letters are not adjacent – e.g. make

Abbreviations

VC, CVC, and CCVC are the respective abbreviations for vowel-consonant, consonant-vowel-consonant, consonant-consonant-vowel-consonant, and are used to describe the order of graphemes in words (e.g. *am* (VC), *Sam* (CVC), *slam* (CCVC), or *each* (VC), *beach* (CVC), *bleach* (CCVC)).



m	a	s	d	t
m	a	s	d	t

Speed Sounds Cards 1

m a s d t i n p g o c

k u b f e l h s h r j v y

w t h z c h q x n g n k

The children will begin to learn to blend and segment to help begin reading and spelling. This will begin with simple words.

at	sat	pat	sat	sap
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(+i)	(+n)	(+m)	(+d)
it	an	am	dad
is	in	man	sad
sit	nip	mat	dim
pit	pan	map	din
pip	pin	Pam	did
sip	tan	Tim	Sid
tip	nap	Sam	and
	tin		dip

(+g)	(+o)	(+c)	(+k)
tag	got	can	kid
gag	on	cot	kit
gig	not	cop	Kim
gap	pot	cap	Ken
nag	top	cat	
sag	dog	cod	
gas	tot		
pig	pop		
dig			

(+ck)	(+e)	(+u)	(+r)
kick	get	up	rim
sock	pet	mum	rip
sack	ten	run	ram
dock	net	mug	rat
pick	pen	cup	rag
sick	peg	sun	rug
pack	met	mud	rot
tuck	men		

(+h)	(+b)	(+f and ff)	(+l and ll)	(+ss)
had	But	of	lap	less
him	big	if	let	hiss
his	back	off	leg	mass
hot	bet	fit	lot	mess
hut	bad	fin	lit	boss
hop	bag	fun	bell	fuss
hum	bed	fig	fill	hiss
hit	bud	fog	doll	pass
hat	beg	puff	tell	kiss
has	bug	huff	sell	Tess
hack	bun	cuff	Bill	

Alongside this, children are introduced to tricky words called **Red Words**. These are the words that are irregular. This means that phonics cannot be applied to the reading and spelling of these words.

I	the	no	go	to
you	me	be	he	we
my	your	of	said	are

Speed Sounds Cards Set 2

By the time children reach these Speed Sounds, they will already be able to blend and segment words.

ay ee igh ow oo oo ar
or air ir ou oy

Sounds	Word example
ay	play
ee	see
igh	high
ow	blow
oo	zoo
oo (short)	look
ar	car
or	door
air	fair

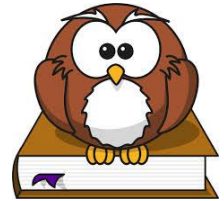
Sounds	Word example
ir	twirl
ou	shout
oy	toy

By this stage, children will be able to represent each of 42 phonemes with a grapheme. They will blend phonemes to read CVC words and segment CVC words for spelling. They will also be able to read two syllable words that are simple. They will be able to read all the tricky words learnt so far and will be able to spell some of them.

Phonics at Home

Tips for teaching your child the sounds:

- ◆ It is important for a child to learn lower case or small letters rather than capital letters at first. Most early books and games use lower case letters and your child will learn these first at school. Obviously you should use a capital letter when required, such as at the beginning of the child's name, e.g. **Paul**.
- ◆ When you talk about letters to your child, remember to use the letter sounds: **a buh cuh duh e ...** rather than the alphabet names of the letters: **ay bee see dee ee** . The reason for this is that sounding out words is practically impossible if you use the alphabet names. **e.g. cat, would sound like: see ay te**
- ◆ When saying the sounds of **b, d, g, j** and **w** you will notice the 'uh' sound which follows each, for example buh, duh... You cannot say the sound without it, however, try to emphasise the main letter sound.



Useful Websites:

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

www.oxfordowl.co.uk