

What is 'Letters and 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 2

j	v	w	x	y	z	zz	qu	ch
sh	th	ng	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	oo
ar	or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	ure	er

Phase 3

ay	ou	ie	ea	oy	ir	ue	aw	wh
ph	ew	oe	au	ey	a_e	e_e		
i_e	o_e	u_e						

Phase 5

Phonics at a glance

phonics is

skills of
segmentation
and blending

+

knowledge of
the alphabetic
code

Phonics consists of:

- identifying sounds in spoken words;
- recognising the common spellings of each phoneme;
- blending phonemes into words for reading;
- segmenting words into phonemes for spelling.

Some definitions

A *phoneme* is the smallest unit of sound in a word.

A *grapheme* is the letter(s) representing a phoneme.

t ch igh

A *digraph* is a phoneme of two letters

ai ee sh

A *trigraph* is a phoneme of three letters

ear air igh

A *split digraph* is where two letters are not adjacent

make time cone

Blending and Segmentation

Blending

- Merging the individual phonemes together to pronounce a word.
- To read unfamiliar words a child must recognise (sound out) each grapheme, not each letter, then merge the phonemes together to make a word.

Segmentation

- Hear and say the individual phonemes within words.
- In order to spell, children need to segment a word into its component phonemes and choose a grapheme to represent each phoneme.

Useful resources used in school

Letter fans/cards, phoneme frames, playdough, chalks, familiar objects, whiteboards etc.

ICT resources

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

<http://www.galacticphonics.com/>

<http://www.educationcity.com/start/>

Providing daily phonic sessions, using Letters and Sounds, will give children the best tools to develop their reading and writing skills. It is a challenging and stimulating program that most importantly encourages the children to have fun!