

More Useful Websites

- www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeIndex

Lots of free games for each phase, especially good for reading non-words. You can also subscribe to access more games.

- www.letters-and-sounds.com

Includes further information on each phase as well as printable resources and links to online games.

- www.ictgames.com/literacy

Wide range of games for sounds, words and rhyming.

- www.topmarks.co.uk

Search engine designed for schools where you can find a wide range of resources and activities with a phonics focus.

Letters and Sounds

Parents Guide

Overview

'Letters & Sounds' is the government programme for teaching phonics and high frequency words.

It is split into 6 phases with the different phases being covered in different years in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

- Phase 1– Nursery / Reception
- Phase 2– Reception
- Phase 3– Reception
- Phase 4– Reception / Year 1

This booklet will give you an idea of what is expected at each level.

Useful Websites

Below is a list of websites that can support you and your child with letters and sounds...

- www.educationcity.co.uk

Has a wide selection of games and activities for all letters and sounds elements. You will need a password to enter the site but you can get this from us at school.

- www.bbc.co.uk/school/wordsandpictures

Games mainly aimed at year 1 and year 2 looking at sounds and high frequency words. Some printable activities too particularly for the phase 4 blends.

- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize

Games to practice key skills such as rhyming, punctuation and grammar.

Phase 4

In Phase 4, 14 more tricky words are taught...

some come one said do so were
when have there out like little what

The children should now be able to write the Phase 3 words.

During Phase 4, sounds with adjacent consonants or initial & final **blends** are taught e.g. bl, dr, sc, ft, ct. These can be sounded out but recognising them quickly makes for a stronger reader.

Phase 1

Phase 1 focuses on the basic skills needed for reading and writing and includes singing lots of nursery rhymes, playing listening games and using musical instruments.

Things to try at home:-

- Play games like 'I spy'
- Sing songs and rhymes together
- Make a 'junk band' with pots & pans
- Share lots of books together

Phase 2

By the end of phase 2, the children should know 24 sounds...

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

and be able to read 5 tricky words...

the to l no go

They should be able to **orally blend** cvc words e.g. when you sound out c-a-t, they can tell you the word is cat, and also **orally segment** cvc words e.g. when you say mum, they can pick out the sounds m-u-m.

Phase 3

Phase 3 builds on Phase 2 and the children learn 25 more sounds (including some where the same letters can make different sounds e.g. oo– book, loop)...

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

and 12 more tricky words to read...

he she we me be was
my you her they all are

They should now, also, be able to spell the 5 tricky words from phase 2.