

Farley Hill Primary School



KS1 Phonics Screening Check Information for Parents May 2024

What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write. It helps children to hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language.

Here are some key terms that may be used to support the teaching...

Phoneme: The smallest unit of sound, used to teach phonics

Grapheme: A letter or group of letters that represent a phoneme (sound)

Digraph: A combination of two letters making one phoneme

Tri-graph: A combination of three letters making one phoneme

Split vowel Digraph: A combination of two letters making one phoneme that has been split between one consonant, written like this: a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e

CVC Words: A three letter word that follow the consonant/vowel/consonant pattern e.g. cat, dog, pet

Blending: The action of putting separate phonemes together to read a word

Segmenting: The action of splitting a word into the individual phonemes that make it

Activity

Using the post it notes found on your chair can you split the words below into the individual phonemes (sounds)?

cat stop splash

cat stop splash

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How can you support your child at home?

Engage them in the books being sent home every day – repetition is the key! 😊 The same book should be read 3 times:

- Once to decode
- Twice for comprehension
- Three times for fluency and expression

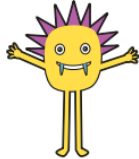
Learn the sounds yourself to make sure you are using the pure sound e.g. 'c' rather than 'cuh'. Use the video below to hear the pure sounds:

[Phonics: How to pronounce pure sounds | Oxford Owl - YouTube](#)

The Phonics Screening Check

- The Phonics Screening Check is a statutory check for all children in Year 1 and any children who need to retake the test in Year 2. Children take it during June in a quiet one-to-one setting with a teacher.
- The Phonics Screening Check only tests their skills at word reading or decoding.
- It contains 40 words and is divided into two sections of 20 words. Both sections contain a mixture of real words and 'pseudo-words' (we call them alien words).
- As the children are regularly practising throughout the year, they are not aware on the day that it is a test.

Phonics screening

grux	
smung	
nesk	
fjoint	

visit
fabric
trapeze
concrete

These are two pages from June 2022.

We actively encourage the children to add the sound buttons before reading out loud. This helps them to check for digraphs/trigraphs and avoid missing sounds.

Activity – can you read the alien words?

Clues to help say the sounds

Grapheme and mnemonic	Pronunciation phrase	Phase 5 Graphemes
	Show your teeth and let the s hiss out ssssss ssssss	c se ce st sc
	Open your lips a bit; put your tongue behind your teeth and make the nnnnn sound nnnnn	kn gn
	Put your lips together and make the mmmmm sound mmmmm	mb
	Open your mouth into a little smile; make your tongue flat and move it up towards the top of your mouth to say c c c	ch
	Show me your teeth to make a rrrr sound rrrr	wr
	Open your lips a little; put your teeth on your bottom lip and push the air out to make the sound ffff ffff	ph
	Open your mouth a little; put your tongue up to the top of your mouth, behind your teeth, and press tttt tttt	le al
	Pucker your lips and show your teeth; use your tongue as you say jjj	g dge ge
	Put your teeth against your bottom lip and make a buzzing sound vvvv vvvv	ve

Grapheme and mnemonic	Pronunciation phrase	Phase 5 Graphemes
	Pucker your lips and keep them small as you say w w w	wh
	Show me your teeth and buzz the z sound zzzzz zzzzz	se ze
	Pucker your lips and show your teeth; use your tongue as you say ch ch ch	tch ture*
	Show me your teeth and push the air out shshshshshsh	ch ti ssi si ci
	Open your mouth wide and say e e e	ea
	Pull your lips back and make the i sound at the back of your mouth iii	y
	Make your mouth into a round shape and say o o o	a
	Open your mouth wide and say u u u	o-e o ou

Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase	Phase 5 Graphemes
ai	 tail in the rain	Open your mouth wide and say ai ai ai	ay a a-e eigh aigh ey ea
ee	 sheep in a jeep	Smile with your lips apart and say ee ee ee	ea e e-e ie y ey
igh	 a light in the night	Open your mouth in a relaxed way and say igh igh igh	ie i i-e y
oa	 soap that goat	Make an 'o' with your mouth and say oa oa oa	o o-e ou oe ow

Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase	Phase 5 Graphemes
oo	 zoom to the moon	Open your mouth just a bit, put your hand on your tummy, pull your tummy in and say oo oo oo	ue u-e ew ou ui
yoo		Pucker your lips and keep them small as you say yoo yoo yoo	ue u u-e ew
oo	 hook a book	Open your mouth just a bit, put your hand on your tummy, pull your tummy in and say oo oo oo	u* oul
ar	 march in the dark	Open your mouth wide, push your tongue down and say ar ar	a* al*

Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase	Phase 5 Graphemes
or	 born with a horn	Make an 'o' with your mouth, push your tongue down and say or or or	aw au aur oor al a oar ore
ur	 curl the fur	Open your mouth in a relaxed way, push your tongue down and say ur ur ur	er ir or
ow	 wow owl	Open your mouth wide then move your lips together as you say ow ow ow	ou
oi	 boing boing	Make an 'o' with your mouth then move your lips out as you say oi oi oi	oy

Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase	Phase 5 Graphemes
ear	 get near to hear	Smile with your lips apart, push your tongue to your teeth as you say ear ear ear	ere ear
air	 chair in the air	Open your mouth wide, push your tongue down as you say air air air	are ere ear
zh		Pucker your lips and show your teeth; push the air over your tongue as you say zh zh	su si

*depending on regional accent