



# Phonics screener workshop

WHAT IS IT AND HOW CAN I HELP?

# What is phonics?

Phonics is one method of teaching children how to read and write. It is the earliest form of decoding – it teaches children to hear, identify and recognise sounds and spelling patterns. There are 6 phases altogether.

Children very quickly make connections between letters and sounds – or as well call them ‘special friends’.

# Key Vocabulary

Phoneme = small units of sound within a word – the sounds you can hear in a word. There are 42 in total.

Grapheme = a letter or group of letters that make a sound in a word. These are the written form of the sound.

GPCs(grapheme phoneme correspondence) = combining the phonemes in a word and the letters needed to write those sounds.

Example: rain

- the word rain has 3 phonemes

- it contains the 'ai' grapheme

- children would break it down into 3 different sounds r – ai – n

- they would then be able to write the word with the letters in the correct order

# Key Vocabulary

Blending = breaking the word down into the sounds they can hear and then merging them together until they can say the whole word.

Segmenting = saying the word then breaking it down into the phonemes needed to write the word.

Digraph = a combination of 2 letters to make 1 sound

Trigraph = a combination of 3 letters to make 1 sound

CVC, CVCC, CCVCC words etc = the C stands for consonant and the V stands for vowel  
E.g. dog, tent, crunch

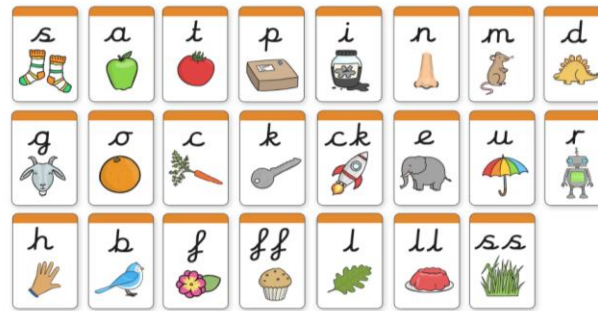
Special friends = these are the digraphs and trigraphs within a word  
E.g. beach – has special friends 'ea' and 'ch'


# The different phases



## Phase 1

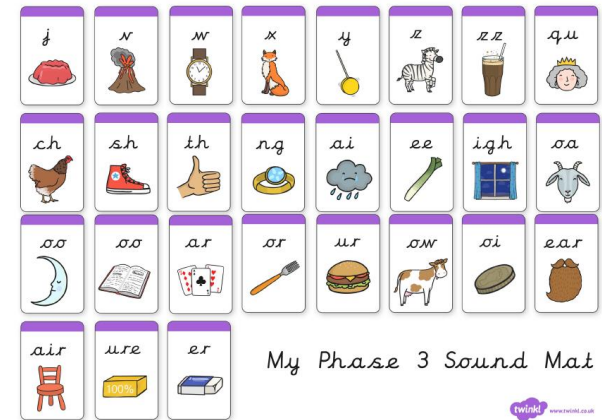
Environmental sounds  
Instrumental sounds  
Body percussion  
Rhythm and rhyme  
alliteration



My Phase 2 Sound Mat  [www.twinkl.co.uk](https://www.twinkl.co.uk)

## Phase 2

Initial sounds  
Learning the sounds  
letters make



My Phase 3 Sound Mat  [www.twinkl.co.uk](https://www.twinkl.co.uk)

## Phase 3

Application of all  
phase 2 sounds  
Able to read and spell  
CVC words  
Consonant and Vowel  
digraphs and trigraphs

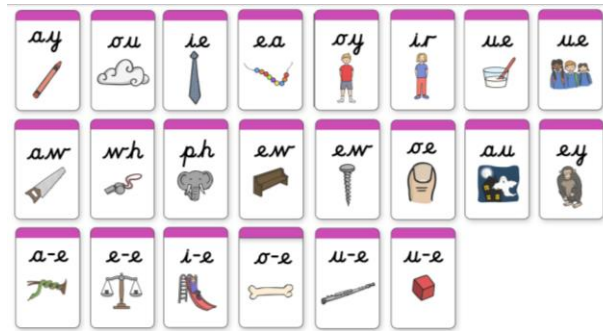
# The different phases



## Phase 4

Consonant clusters/adjacent consonants

Multi-syllable words



## My Phase 5 sound mat

twinkl www.twinkl.co.uk

## Phase 5

Different graphemes for the same phonemes

Alternate pronunciations for single letters



## Phase 6

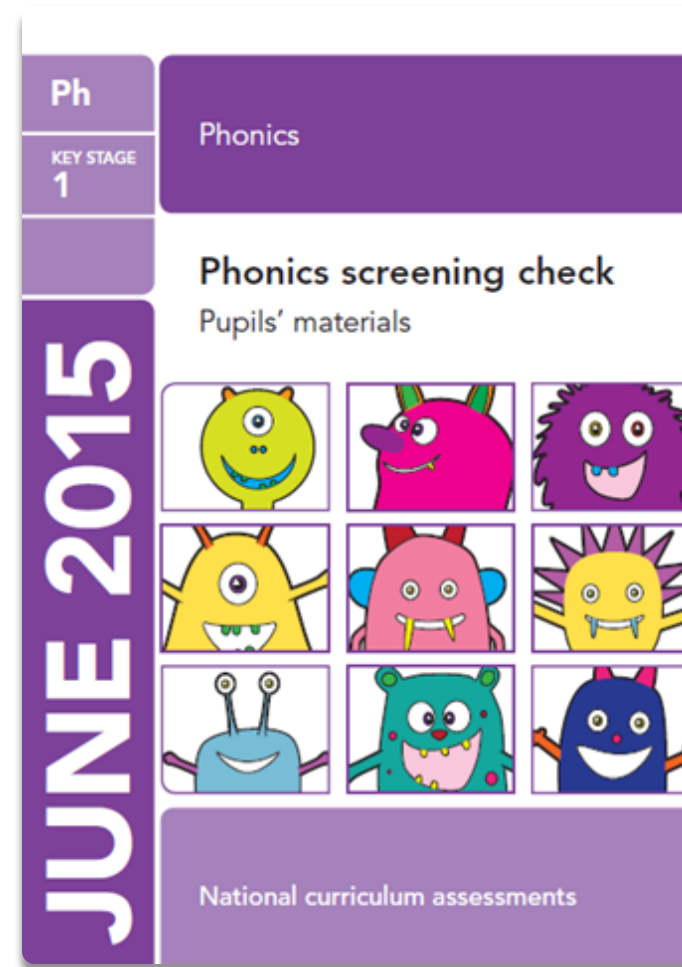
Prefixes and suffixes  
Teaching of past tense  
Plurals

Compound words

# Phonics Screenener

The screener is a test to check that all year 1 pupils are using phonics correctly. The screener usually takes place early June.

If a child does not pass the test in year 1, they will sit it again in year 2.



# Adults

Adults leading screener must not help in any way.

The test consists of 40 words the children must read. Some are alien words (words that have been made up) and a smaller number are real words. The pass mark usually lies around 32-35.

2016

Phonics

## Screening check: answer sheet

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| First name |  |
| Last name  |  |

**Screening check responses:** Please tick the appropriate box for each word. The use of the comment box is optional.

| Section 1 |         |           |         | Section 2 |         |           |         |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Word      | Correct | Incorrect | Comment | Word      | Correct | Incorrect | Comment |
| lig       |         |           |         | jigh      |         |           |         |
| mep       |         |           |         | woats     |         |           |         |
| gax       |         |           |         | rird      |         |           |         |
| emp       |         |           |         | phope     |         |           |         |
| beff      |         |           |         | glips     |         |           |         |
| shup      |         |           |         | floost    |         |           |         |
| doil      |         |           |         | splam     |         |           |         |
| charb     |         |           |         | strobe    |         |           |         |
| frex      |         |           |         | stair     |         |           |         |
| criff     |         |           |         | haunt     |         |           |         |
| haps      |         |           |         | lied      |         |           |         |
| barst     |         |           |         | wove      |         |           |         |
| chin      |         |           |         | drank     |         |           |         |
| deck      |         |           |         | treats    |         |           |         |
| horn      |         |           |         | scram     |         |           |         |
| queen     |         |           |         | stroke    |         |           |         |
| tram      |         |           |         | arrow     |         |           |         |
| press     |         |           |         | forest    |         |           |         |
| self      |         |           |         | wishing   |         |           |         |
| keeps     |         |           |         | brighter  |         |           |         |

Total correct

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|



# Children

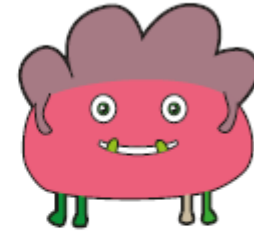
There are 2 sections to the test. Children are allowed to take breaks during the screener.

In order to stand the best chance of passing, children should feel confident applying phonics up to phase 5.

Using the 4 steps to success technique, children develop a flow to reading real and alien words in the test.

## Section 2

glips



floost



splam



strobe



# 4 steps to success

1 – identifying if the word is real or alien.

2 – scanning the word for special friends.

3 – sound out the word.

4- - blend it together and say the whole word.

If they are struggling with accurate blending, try to get them to stretch the sounds out whilst maintaining fluency or get them to sound it out more than once, picking up pace each time.

# Useful Links & Resources

The children have lots of opportunities to practice in school and we will send some resources home with the children.

Phonics Play – there is a “Free Phonics Play” link where you can access some of the content of the site. Games such as “Picnic on Pluto”, “Dragon’s Den” and “Buried Treasure” are particularly useful for alien and real word practice.

Letters and Sounds – this site has a great range of free resources.

Twinkl – all resources are now subscription only.

Primaryresources.co.uk – free resources which can be printed off.



Any other questions or  
concerns?

Please e mail Mrs Garner, Miss  
Bolger or Miss Hughes  
[year1@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:year1@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk)