



# Developmental phonics January 2019

“In a multimedia world adults have less time to talk and listen to children, but children need to talk to learn and grow.”

“Reading and writing float on a sea of talk...”

Sue Palmer



# Our aim today is to:

- explain how we teach phonics and reading in Reception;
- give you ideas on how to support your child at home;
- have time for questions at the end of the session.

‘Good parenting and high quality early learning together provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.’ EYFS Statutory Framework, 2014

Interesting fact ...If children are read to only once or less a week by the age of 5 they are already 6-8 months behind peers.

So how did we learn to read if we didn't 'do' phonics?

# Well we did use phonics...

## Analytical phonics

- Learn **whole words** (sight vocabulary)
- Start to see **similarities** like the same initial letter (c in cat and c in cub)
- See spelling patterns (**say**, **pay**, **may** ..called onset and rime)
- Use what we know to break down new words

## Synthetic phonics

- The synthetic bit relates to synthesising or **blending**
- **Letter sounds** are learnt with most frequently used first (s a t p i n or m a s t d)
- Words are made by **blending** them together
- Sounds are clearly **articulated**



- Phonics is:

**Knowledge of the  
alphabetic code**

**+**

**Skills of segmentation  
and blending**

# In summary...

- we used to teach reading by teaching whole words first
- we now teach using component sounds first
- in reality.....good readers use both the above methods and many other strategies

# So how can you help?

- Make sure that the **'ear'** is **ready for phonics** by reading to your child lots
- Point out and play with rhyme
- Clap out syllables in words
- Make up alliterative sentences
- Say phrases with missing bits (e.g. Fish and chips without saying 'ch')
- I spy with my little eye...

# What else?

- Learn how to say all the sounds correctly
- The Oxford Owl website has a video demonstration on how to say the sounds
- Know the difference between a letter and a sound
- **a letter** is one of the 26 written elements of the alphabet
- **a sound** is a single voiced element which may be made up using one or more letters (e.g. m & igh are both sounds)

# The sounds of spoken English

- 44 sounds or phonemes
- 19 – vowel sounds
- 25 – consonant sounds
- Phoneme – smallest unit of sound in a word

# Pronouncing phonemes

## 1. Stretchy sounds

f l m n r s v z th ng ee

## 2. Bouncy sounds

a p t h c d g j w qu y ch

# What is a phoneme?

\* A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound that you can hear within a word. The word phoneme refers to the sound , NOT the letter(s) which represent the sound in writing.

\* Fish has 3 phonemes f-i-sh

\* Cat has 3 phonemes c-a-t

# Teaching phonemes

Initial sounds

S a t p

i n m d

g o c k

ck e u r

h b f ff

l ll ss

Blending

mad

map

sat

Reading

ls, in, it, at

and

and, the, to

no, go, l

How many phonemes in the following words?

<b>Top</b>	<b>shop</b>
lunch	thought
Bird	fish
High	mate

# The alphabetic code...

- When we say that children can **decode** what we mean is that they can use the alphabetic code to work out how to read new words.
- This is tested at the end of year one when every child will sit a phonics assessment comprising 20 real words and 20 nonsense words.

# ai

- ai
- ay
- aCCe
- ae
- aCe
- ey
- ea
- eigh
- eigh

- Paid
- Tray
- Cable
- Sundae
- Made
- Prey
- Great
- Weight
- Straight

and.....

- Don't make the common mistake of thinking the letter names refer to capital or upper case letters and letter sounds relate to lower case letters
- Remember that you child's visual memory will play a big part in remembering what all the letters look like

At school we...

Multi sensory approach to teaching:

- \* Physically
- \* Movement with whole body
- \* Whiteboards
- \* Flashcards
- \* Visual



We use robot talk

We use robot-talk to introduce children to  
blending sounds together to read a word.  
We will now show you how!

# We also use sound buttons

- We also use sound buttons to help us blend and segment words.
- Blending is joining the sounds together to help us read a word.
- Segmenting is hearing a word and splitting it up into the sounds that make it.
- Here are some examples...

# Sound buttons

Cat

# Phonics – Phase 3

- Phase 3 introduces children to units of sound made up of more than one letter.
- Digraph – two letters that make one sound
- Example - 'ch' 'sh' 'ng'
- Lets look at 'chin' ch-i-n

# Learning through play

- Noisy Letters
- Letter hunt or sound hunt
- Knock on the box
- Splat
- Eye-spy with sounds not letters
- Fishing for phonemes
- [Phonicsplay.co.uk](http://Phonicsplay.co.uk)
- [ictgames.com](http://ictgames.com)
- Busy Things (LGFL)

# Tricky words

High frequency words:

- Decodable words:

Most frequently used words in English language.

**Mostly phonetically plausible.**

- **Tricky words/camera words**

High frequency words which **are not** phonetically plausible.



# Tricky words

go

he

was

some



# Ideas for 'tricky words'

## Ideas for 'tricky words'

- Whilst out and about go 'word spotting'
- Play guess the word –write a tricky word on child's back with your finger
- Play dominoes or pairs or snap with words
- Count how many times you can find a particular word in a reading book
- Ask children to write the word with different objects e.g. toy cars, beads, stickers
- Use magnetic letters, e.g. give children letters 't', 'h', 'e', 'i' and 'n' –ask them to spell 'the'



# Please.....

- Read to your children as often as you can.
- Talk to your children about the books you share.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes with your children.
- Allow time for your child to read to you.
- Be interested in language and words –have an interesting word place at home.
- Play ‘I spy’ to practise initial sounds.
- Make it an enjoyable experience, keep it fun!



# How to help your child read a word

- Which letter sounds do you recognise? Can you blend them together?
- Does the word make sense? Read the sentence again to check.
- Is it a word you know from your tricky robot? What is the first sound?
- Have you read the word before? Is it on another page?
- Are there any bits of the word you recognise?
- Miss out the word, say 'mmmm', finish the sentence. Then go back and work out what the word was.
- Always go back and read the sentence again!
- Resist the urge to tell your child the word instantly. Helping them to work it out for themselves enables them to develop the skills to work it out for themselves independently next time and become a fluent and confident reader.



Term	Meaning	Examples
Phoneme	The smallest unit of a sound that you hear within a word. The word phoneme refers to the sound, NOT the letter(s) which represent the sound in writing.	c/a/t = 3 phonemes Th/e/n = 3 phonemes Ch/air = 2 phonemes s/t/r/aigh/t = 5 phonemes Ough/t = 2 phonemes
Grapheme		
Blend		
Segment	To split a word into its separate phonemes, as an aid to spelling.	
Letters and sounds	The document we use to plan phonics. This provides a teaching sequence structured into 6 phases. In Reception we cover phase 1,2,3 and 4.	

# The Early Years Foundation stage

- Children in Reception are part of the 'Early Years Foundation Stage'.
- This describes the education your child receives from birth to the **end** of their Reception year.
- It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.
- There are 7 areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Reading, writing and phonics form part of a larger curriculum.

# Book Recommendations

## Book Recommendations for Ages 3-5



### [I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato](#)

Lauren Child  
Hachette

Charlie tricks his younger sister, Lola - an extremely fussy eater - into eating all her least favourite foods.



### [Room on the Broom](#)

Julia Donaldson, Illustrated by Axel Scheffler  
Macmillan Children's Books

From former Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson and longtime collaborator Axel Scheffler comes this much-loved tale about a witch and her gang of friends.



### [The Snowman](#)

Raymond Briggs  
Puffin

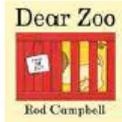
James builds a snowman in the garden, then wakes up in the night to find that it has come to life.



### [Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes](#)

Mem Fox, Illustrated by Helen Oxenbury  
Walker Books

This charming first book is perfect for new arrivals.



### [Dear Zoo](#)

Rod Campbell  
Campbell Books

This appealing story, in lift-the-flap, board-book format has been a favourite with toddlers ever since it was first published in 1982.



### [Gorilla](#)

Anthony Browne  
Walker Books

Hannah's favourite animals in the whole world are gorillas, but her dad is always too busy to take her to the zoo.



### [We're Going on a Bear Hunt](#)

Michael Rosen, Illustrated by Helen Oxenbury  
Walker Books

Follow a father and his family as they go out in search of a bear.



### [Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy](#)

Lynley Dodd  
Puffin

This hilarious rhyming story follows Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy, as he sets off for a walk in town

## Book Recommendations for Ages 3-5



### [The Tiger Who Came to Tea](#)

Judith Kerr  
HarperCollins Children's Books

Sophie and her Mummy are having tea in the kitchen when in walks a hungry tiger who asks to stay to tea.



### [Where's Spot?](#)

Eric Hill  
Puffin

This adorable picture book about Spot the dog is the first in the Spot series



### [Each Peach Pear Plum](#)

Allan Ahlberg, Illustrated by Janet Ahlberg  
Puffin

This classic book from author and illustrator team Janet and Allan Ahlberg is a real favourite with families



### [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#)

Eric Carle  
Puffin

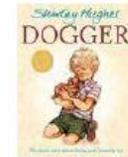
Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* deserves its reputation as a much-loved classic.



### [The Elephant and the Bad Baby](#)

Efrida Vipont, Illustrated by Raymond Briggs  
Puffin

One day, an elephant offers a baby a ride through the town, and the set off on a great adventure.



### [Dogger](#)

Shirley Hughes  
Random House

When Dave loses his favourite toy, Dogger, he is desolate.



### [Lost and Found](#)

Oliver Jeffers  
HarperCollins Children's Books

Once there was a sad, lonely penguin who appeared at the door of a young boy. The boy decided he must be lost, so he set off to find his home.

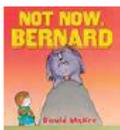


### [Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears](#)

Emily Gravett  
Pan Macmillan

Little Mouse is scared of most things, from creepy crawlies and loud noises, to getting lost.

Book Recommendations for Ages 3-5



[Not now, Bernard](#)

David McKee  
Andersen

The classic tale of Bernard, whose distracted parents fail to notice that their son has been eaten and replaced by a monster.



[Where the Wild Things Are](#)

Maurice Sendak  
Red Fox

First published in 1963, this classic picture book will fascinate both children and adults, evoking the fierce intensity of childhood



[The Jolly Postman or Other People's Letters](#)

Allan Ahlberg Illustrated by Janet Ahlberg  
Penguin

Brilliantly designed with lots of little details to spot, this old favourite will be enjoyed time and time again



[I Want My Hat Back](#)

Jon Klassen  
Walker Books

A bear sets out in search of his hat - he loves his hat and he wants it back



[The Cat in the Hat](#)

Dr Seuss  
HarperCollins Children's Books

When Sally and her brother are left alone on a rainy day, they think they are in for a dull time - but then the Cat in the Hat appears.



[Meg and Mog](#)

Helen Nicholl Illustrated by Jan Pienkowski  
Puffin

In this the first story about much-loved characters Meg the witch and Mog her cat, the pair go off to a wild Hallowe'en party with all the other witches



[Would You Rather?](#)

John Burningham  
Random House

Would you rather drink snail squash or eat mashed worms? Help a witch make stew? Tickle a monkey?



[Princess Smartypants](#)

Babette Cole  
Penguin

Recommended Children's Reading Book List – EYF5

Author	Title
Julia Donaldson, Axel Scheffler	Stick Man
Shirley Hughes	Dogger
David McKee	Not Now, Bernard
Elfrida Vipont	The Elephant and the Bad Baby
Martin Waddell	Once there were Giants
Nick Butterworth	The Whisperer
Nick Sharratt	Shark in the Park
Tim Hopgood	Our Big Blue Sofa
Martin Waddell, Patrick Benson	Owl Babies
Nick Butterworth	One Snowy Night
Julia Donaldson, Axel Scheffler	The Gruffalo
Maurice Sendak	Where the Wild Things Are
Sam McBratney, Garth Williams	Guess How Much I Love You
A A Milne	Winnie the Pooh
Martin Waddell	Farmer Duck
Kes Grey	Oi Frog!
Lauren Child	I Will Never eat a Tomato
Jill Tomlinson	The Tiger Who Came to Tea
Bill Martin Jr	Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?
Jill Murphy	Peace at Last
Eileen Browne	Handa's Surprise
Jez Alborough	Where's my Teddy?
Patricia Cleveland-Peck	You can't take an Elephant on the Bus!
Pamela Butchart	Never Tickle a Tiger
Rob Biddulph	Blown Away!
Lynley Dodd	Hairy Maclary
Margaret Wise Brown	Goodnight Moon
Claire Freedman	Oliver and Patch
James Mayhew	Katie and the Dinosaurs
Rod Campbell	Dear Zoo
Eve Sutton	My Cat likes to Hide in Boxes
Eric Carle	The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Michelle Robinson	There's a Lion in my Cornflakes
Oliver Jeffers	Lost and Found
Kim Lewis	My Friend Harry
Shirley Hughes	The Big Concrete Lorry
B J Novak	The Book with No Pictures
Rob Biddulph	Grrrr!
Marcus Pfister	The Rainbow Fish
John Burningham	The Shopping Basket

This is not a conclusive list by any means! If your child enjoys a book, try looking for more books by the same author or illustrator. There are many more ideas on the National Literacy Trust website:

[http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/resources/practical\\_resources\\_info/804\\_resource\\_early\\_years\\_booklists](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/resources/practical_resources_info/804_resource_early_years_booklists)

Thank you and any questions?

