

# ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

developed by Knowledge Schools Trust

Getting all children to  
read well, quickly.

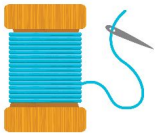


OXFORD

# What is Phonics?

A method of teaching beginners to read and pronounce words by learning to associate letters or letter groups with the sounds they represent.

There are 44 main sounds in the English Language. Each sound is represented by a grapheme (the written representation of a sound).



# What is Phonics?

**Phoneme:** the smallest single identifiable sound in a word.  
For example, in the word 'cat' there are three phonemes c/a/t.

**Grapheme:** the written representation of a sound.

**Digraph:** two letters making one sound. For example, /sh/ in the word '**sh**op'.

**Trigraph:** three letters making one sound. For example, /igh/ in the word '**nigh**t'.

**Split digraph:** two vowel letters split but are split by one or more consonants.  
For example, /a-e/ in the word '**ca**ke'.

ai (rain)

ay (play)

a (acorn)

a\_e (name)

eigh (eight)

ey (grey)

ea (great)

aigh (straight)

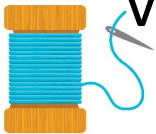
# How do we teach phonics?

- We use a simple, consistent approach to teaching phonics.
- We have mnemonics and rhymes to support learning and recall
- We teach phonics every single day from the first days of Reception



# How do we teach phonics?

- Phonics throughout the day to review new sounds & graphemes taught
- Lots of opportunities for oral blending- /c/ /oa/ /t/
- We teach the 'code' for reading, alongside teaching vocabulary.



# How do we teach phonics?

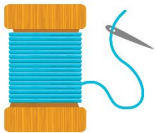
## Teach

These objects all have the /ng/ sound in.

ng



ng ... ng ... ring  
ng ... ng ... wing  
ng ... ng ... sing



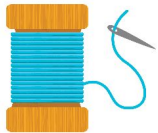
# How do we teach phonics?

Practise

Quit activity ✕

Read the word. Click on the icon to reveal the picture.

net



Practise

Quit activity ✕

Read the word. Click on the icon to reveal the picture.

net





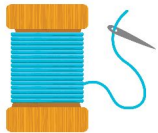
# How do we teach phonics?

Apply

Quit activity 

Read the sentence. Click on the icon to reveal the picture.

Her friend said it  
was sweater  
weather.



# Supporting your child with reading at home

- Children are only reading from books that are entirely decodable
- Your child should be able to read their book confidently
- We only use pure sounds when decoding words (no 'uh' after the sound)
- We want them to practise reading their book 4 times across the week working on these skills:

decode

fluency

expression



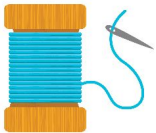
# Supporting your child with writing at home



You can use the spelling sequence with your children at home to support them with their writing.

Let's try this with the word: rain

We also practise saying our sentences before we write them to make sure we write the sentence we have planned and to ensure it makes sense!



# Home learning



Key Stage 1 Reading Bookmark

Date: w.b. 16.9.24

This bookmark belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Reading book this week:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please read the Phonics decodable text **4 times** across the week. This book has been closely matched to your child's phonics skills.

Spending 10 mins a day reading with your child will hugely support them in their journey to becoming an independent reader. It provides plenty of opportunities to develop their phonic knowledge and reading fluency. Re-reading ensures that children develop their reading skills and fluency. This, in turn, supports their learning in school; as children become more fluent at reading, they are able to focus on their new learning.

You have also been allocated some books on Bug Club to read.

Library books will come home on a **Thursday**. Please ensure they are returned to school the following Thursday ready to be changed. Remember to add these titles to the bookmark together with any other bedtime stories shared.

This week we are reviewing some earlier sounds

Phase 3 sounds

z zz qu ch sh th ng  
nk

Phonics focus: **oi ear air ure ow** (snow)

**oi** coin soil boil point oil spoil join

**ear** ear fear year beard dear clear smear tear

**air** hair chair stairs funfair pair lair hairbrush airport

**ure** cure vulture pure sure picture signature

**ow** snow grow crow show mow window rowing slow

## Reading at Home

Date:	Title:	Comment:

Aut 1 Week 6 Phonics focus - say the sounds

## ● oi ear air ure ow

These are the HRSW that we are reviewing this week.

HRS words are currently harder to read and spell as children have not yet been taught the relevant GPCs. We read these words on sight. The more times we see them and say them the more we will be able to recognise and read them on sight in our reading.

all	they	water	want
there	said	should	could
when	what	would	their
her	put	little	like
pull	mouse		
house	asked		

**Writing focus** - we are learning these mnemonics and rhymes to help support correct letter formation when we write the letter sounds we need to write these digraphs and trigraphs in words. As we write the letter we need to talk through the movement our pencil needs to make. Letters always start from the top.

oi



**o** around the ostrich's body  
**i** down her body, spot her idea

ear



**e** around the head and down the trunk  
**a** around the head, down the body  
**r** down her body, up over the arm

air



**a** around the head, down the body  
**i** down her body, spot her idea  
**r** down her body, up over the arm

Name:

Week Commencing:

These are the sounds you need to practise.

oi ear air ure ow

Keep this at home to practise daily.

Name:

Week Commencing:

These are the sounds you need to practise.

j v w x y z zz qu ch

sh th ng ai ee igh oa

oo ar or ur ow oi ear

air ure er

Keep this at home to practise daily.

<https://doodlelearning.com/#>

Menu →

# Learning Zone

The Learning Zone interface features a light blue background with faint mathematical symbols like plus, minus, and percent signs. A central navigation path consists of three circular icons: an orange circle with a white document icon containing the number '6' and the text 'a-day' below it; a green circle with a white lightbulb icon and the text 'new' below it; and another orange circle with a white document icon containing the number '6' and the text 'a-day' below it. These icons are connected by white lines. Below the first '6 a-day' icon is a square icon with a yellow star in the center, surrounded by a circular progress indicator with red, yellow, and green segments.



<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

ActiveLearn

My Home

My Stuff

My Library

My Rewards

Log Out

Grown-ups

35

Welcome  
Alessio

Click My Stuff to get started!



# My Work

My Home

35

My Stuff

My Library

My Rewards

Log Out

Grown-ups

Close



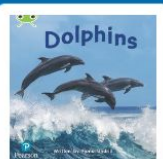
34 items



Dave's Big Day

New

3



Dolphins

New

6



I Will Amaze You!

New

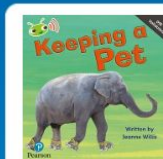
3



Jane and the Jay

New

3



Keeping a Pet

New

3



ACTIVE LEARN

