

## Oral Blending

Your child hears a series of sounds and they are able to blend those sounds together to make the whole word, for example you say 'c-a-t' and they blend to make 'cat'.

## Pure Sounds

pronouncing the sounds of letters and combination of letters correctly. Avoid the 'uh' at the end of the sound. So 'mmmm' not 'muh'



## JARGON BUSTER

## Segmenting

The opposite to blending. Children break up the word into its component sounds. We might use our 'robot arms' or 'phonics fingers' to count the number of sounds in the word.

## Blending

Your child sees a word, says the individual sounds and then merges those sounds together to make the whole word, for example they see 'b-u-s' and the blend to make 'bus'.



## Phoneme

The smallest unit of sound in a word. So the word 'sun' has 3, 'chair' has 2, 'sport' has 4. There are approximately 44 in the English language to learn.

## Grapheme

The written form of the phoneme. It's what we write on the paper or see on resources. The number of graphemes corresponds to the number of phonemes. A grapheme can be made up of different numbers of letters for example 'ai' is 2 and 'ear' is 3.

## Digraph

Two letters together that make one sound, for example 'ck', 'ee' and 'ar'

You have consonant digraph like 'sh' and 'ch' or vowel digraphs like 'ai', 'oo' and 'ow'

## Trigraph

Three letters together that make one sound, for example 'igh', 'ear' and 'ure' learnt in Phase 3.



## Split digraph

This is when a digraph like 'ie' has been split and a consonant has been placed in the middle. It still makes the 'ie' phoneme. There are five to learn: a-e, i-e, e-e, o-e and u-e.

## Decodable

Being able to 'sound out' the word into its component sounds.

## Tricky Words

These are words that are not decodable. Children will need to learn these words by sight. Each phase has a set of tricky words. Some do become decodable as children move up the phases such as 'like' and 'out' become decodable words in Phase 5.

## High Frequency Words

These are words that often occur in books and stories. They are a mixture of decodable words and tricky words.



# Non Words

Often referred to as alien or silly words. These words are decodable but are made up. Reading these types of words can act as a useful tool to check how secure your child's phonic knowledge is. If they have good decoding skills they will be able to read both real and non words.

The Year 1 Screening Check is made up of reading real and non words.



## Sound Buttons

A dot or line that is placed under each grapheme. Every time your child presses the button they say the phoneme and then blend all the phonemes together at the end. The word 'hop' would have 3 dots. The word 'moon' has dot, line, dot as you draw a line under digraphs and trigraphs.

## CVC Word

Consonant, Vowel, Consonant. The word 'top', for example, is a simple CVC word. The word 'rain' is also a CVC word as it has the vowel digraph 'ai' in the middle. The words 'boy' and 'tie' are not CVC words as even though have 3 letters they have only 2 phonemes.



## Syllable

A unit of a word that has one vowel sound. The word 'rain' has one, 'raining' has 2, 'umbrella' has 3.

## Polysyllabic

A word that contains more than one syllable. Examples are 'children', 'softest', 'melting'.

## Compound Word

A compound word is formed when two or more smaller words are joined together to create a new word. Examples are 'bedroom', 'playground', 'sandpit' and 'sunflower'.