

KS1 Phonics Screening Check



What is phonics?

Children are taught to read by breaking down words into separate sounds or 'phonemes'. They are then taught how to blend these sounds together to read the whole word.

Children have a 20 minute phonics lesson each day and they are encouraged to use these strategies to read and write in other lessons.

There are 40+ different sounds.

sounds	simple code	complex code graphemes, or spelling alternatives, which are code for the sounds						
/s/	s snake 	-ss glass 	-ce palace 	-se house 	c (c i g) city 	sc scissors 	-st castle 	ps pseudonym 
/a/	a apple 							
/t/	t tent 	-tt letter 	-ed skipped 					
/i/	i insect 	-y cymbals 						
/p/	p pan 	-pp puppet 						
/n/	n net 	-nn bonnet 	kn knot 	gn gnome 	-ne engine 			
/k/	k kit 	c cat 	-ck duck 	ch chameleon 	qu bouquet 	que plaque 		
/e/	e egg 	-ea head 	-ai said 					
/h/	h hat 	wh who? 						
/r/	r rat 	-rr arrow 	wr write 	rh rhinoceros 				
/m/	m map 	-mm hammer 	-me welcome 	-mb thumb 	-mn columns 			
/d/	d dig 	-dd puddle 	-ed rained 					
/g/	g girl 	-gg juggle 	gu guitar 	gh ghost 	-gue catalogue 			
/o/	o octopus 	wa watch 	qua qualify 	alt salt 				
/u/	u umbrella 	o son 	-ou touch 	-ough thoroughfare 				
/l/	l ladder 	-ll shell 						
/u/	-le kettle 	-il pencil 	-al hospital 	-el camel 				
/f/	f feathers 	-ff cliff 	ph photograph 	-gh laugh 				
/b/	b bat 	-bb rabbit 	bu building 					
/j/	j jug 	-ge cabbage 	g (g i g) giraffe 	-dge fridge 				
/y/	y yawn 							
/ai/	ai first aid 	-ay tray 	a table 	-ae sundae 	a-e cakes 			
	-ey prey 	-ea break 	eigh eight 	-aigh straight 				
/w/	w web 	wh wheel 	-u penguin 					

sounds	simple code	complex code							
/oa/	oa oak 	ow bow 	o yo-yo 	-oe oboe 	o-e rope 	-ough dough 	eau plateau 		
/igh/	-igh night 	-ie tie 	i behind 	-y fly 	i-e bike 	ei eider duck 	eye eye 		
/ee/	ee eel 	ea eat 	e emu 	e-e concrete 	-ey key 	-ie chief 	-ine sardines 		
/i-ee/	-y sunny 	-ey monkey 	-ie movie 						
/or/	or fork 	oar oars 	-oor door 	ore snore 	-our four 	war wardrobe 	quar quarter 	wa water 	
	aw dawn 	au sauce 	-al chalk 	-augh caught 	ough thought 				
/z/	z zebra 	-zz jazz 	-s fries 	-se cheese 	-ze breeze 				
/ng/	-ng gong 	-n jungle 		/ngk/	-nk ink 	-nc uncle 			
/v/	v violin 	-ve dove 							
short /oo/	-oo book 	-oul should 	-u push 						
long /oo/	oo moon 	-ue blue 	u-e flute 	-ew crew 	-ui fruit 	-ou soup 	-o move 	-ough through 	
/ks/	-x fox 	-ks books 	-cks ducks 	-kes cakes 		/gz/	-x exam 	-gs pegs 	
/ch/	ch chairs 	-tch patch 		/chu/	-ture picture 				
/sh/	sh sheep 	ch chef 	-ti station 	-ci magician 	-ssi admission 				
unvoiced /th/	th thistle 		voiced /th/	th there 					
/kw/	qu queen 								
/ou/	ou ouch 	ow owl 	-ough plough 						
/oi/	oi ointment 	oy toy 							This chart is not definitive. You may discover further code.
/yoo/	-ue statue 	u unicorn 	u-e tube 	ew new 	eu pneumatic 				
/er/	er mermaid 	ir birthday 	ur nurse 	ear earth 	wor world 				Grey dashes indicate that the particular letter/s-sound correspondence is unlikely to begin a word.
schwa /er/ 'uh'	-er mixer 	-our humour 	-re theatre 	-ar collar 	-or sailor 				
/ar/	ar artist 	a father 	alm palm 	-alf half 	-alves calves 				Hollow letters alert the reader to various possible pronunciations.
/air/	air hair 	-are hare 	-ear bear 	-ere where 					
/eer/	eer deer 	ear ears 	-ere adhere 	-ier cashier 					
/zh/	-si television 	-s treasure 	-z azure 	g courgette 	-ge collage 				by Debbie Hepplewhite

KS1 Phonics Screening Check

The Year 1 phonics screening check is not a formal test, but a way for teachers to ensure that children are making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to read words and that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.

What is the KS1 Phonics Screening Check?

The phonics screening check will be taken individually by all children in Year 1 in England – this began in June 2012. It is designed to give teachers and parents information on how your child is progressing in phonics. It will help to identify whether your child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.

How is the phonics screening check completed?

There are two sections in the 40-word check and it will assess phonics skills and knowledge learned through Reception and Year 1.

Your child will read four words per page for their teacher and they will probably do the check in one sitting of about 5-10 minutes.

How is the check administered?

It is a school-based check to make sure that your child receives any additional support promptly, should they need it. It is not a stressful situation as the teacher will be well-equipped to listen and understand your child's level of skills.

There will be a few practice words first to make sure your child understands the activity. They will have also regularly completed past papers – it will in no way be new to your child.

What will it check?

It will check that your child can:

- Sound out and blend graphemes in order to read simple words.
- Read phonically decodable one-syllable and two-syllable words, e.g. cat, sand, windmill.
- Read a selection of nonsense words which are referred to as pseudo words.

at

vap



What are nonsense, alien and pseudo words and why are they included?

These are words that are phonically decodable but are not actual words with an associated meaning e.g. brip, snorb. Pseudo words are included in the check specifically to assess whether your child can decode a word using phonics skills and not their memory.

beg

sum

osk



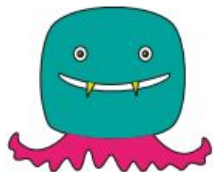
ect



slimp



craint



splet



strave



elbow

tailor

sequins

whirling

What are nonsense, alien and pseudo words and why are they included?

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien and they will be asked to tell their teacher what sort of alien it is by reading the word.

This not only makes the check a bit more fun, but provides the children with a context for the nonsense word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.

Crucially, it does not provide any clues, so your child just has to be able to decode it. Children generally find nonsense amusing so they will probably enjoy reading these words.

Is there a pass mark?

Historically the pass mark has been 32 out of 40.

However, if children do not reach the required standard, they will be offered additional, tailored support to ensure that your child can catch up.

Your child will re-sit the check if needed the following summer term in Year 2.

When will the screening take place?

The screening will take place throughout the week beginning Monday 10th June. The children cannot retake the test at any other time so it is very important your child is in school during this week.

How can you help at home?

Digraph- 2 letters making one sound = cow

Trigraphs- 3 letters making one sound = night

Split digraphs- 2 vowels with a consonant in between. Use to be known as the magic e!

spine - i_e

Encourage your child to 'sound out' when reading or writing. Focus particularly on spotting more unusual sound patterns.

How can you help at home?

You can also try using:

Phonics screening past papers – available to download for free

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

Reading every night



Please remember

Phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader. Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to:

- Sound out.
- Re-read to check it makes sense.
 - Use pictures for clues.
- Ask questions about the book.

And most importantly ENJOY READING!