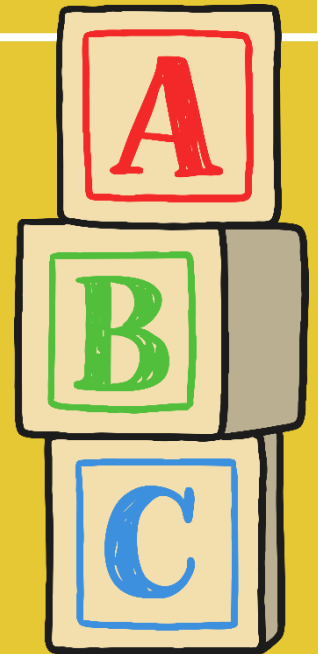




Year One

Phonics Screening Check

A Guide for Parents



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What is Phonics?

Children begin to learn phonics (sounds) in early years, both nursery and reception.

Once children begin learning sounds, these sounds are used orally to identify and make words. They will then begin to learn the letters which make each of the sounds and these are used to read and spell words.

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What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June (week beginning 12th June)
- Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1 or they have not taken the test before.
- The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.



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What Happens During the Test?

- The test contains 40 words.
- Each child will sit one-to-one and read each word aloud to a teacher.
- The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace.
- The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

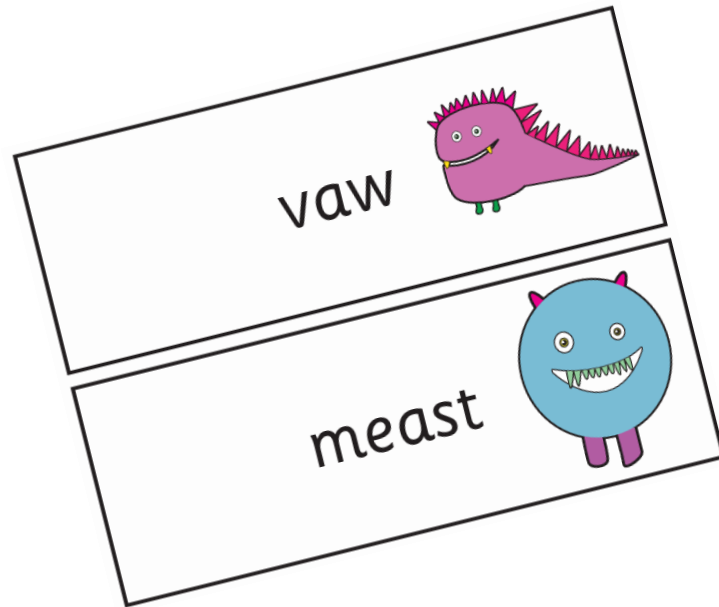
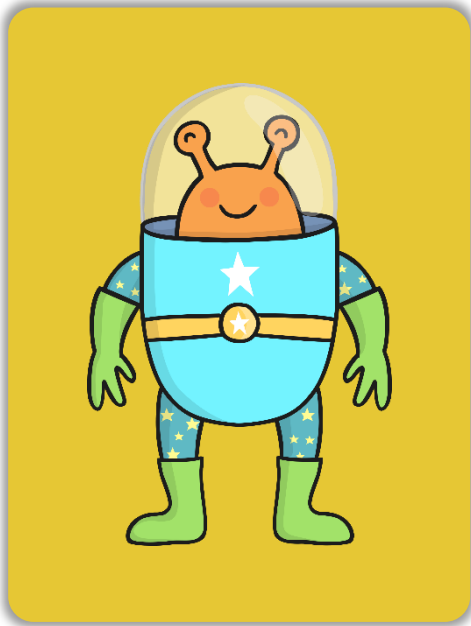


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Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)

The nonsense words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. Nonsense words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.



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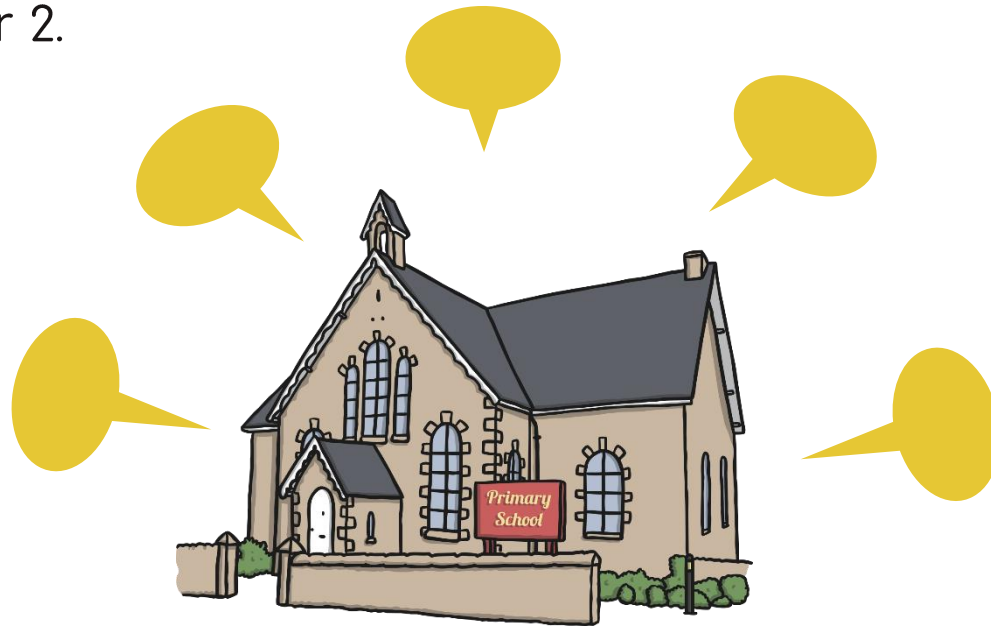
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Reporting to Parents

By the end of the summer term all schools must report each child's results to their parents.

They will also confirm if the child has met the standard threshold.

Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.



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How Are the Results Used?

Results from the check will be used by schools to analyse their own performance and for Ofsted to use in inspections.



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How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Continue to practice the 3 golden steps
- Step 1 – Special friends?
- Step 2 – Fred talk
- Step 3 – Read the word

Watch me...

 zorps	 dirst
 harnd	 gair
 jigh	 thobe
 zale	 scroy
 bluns	 spraw

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How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.
- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a ‘good guess’.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each one, e.g. /c/ in cat, /p/ in pat, /ng/ in sing, /ee/ in been. Next move your finger under the whole word as you say it.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.

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How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Go through the practice phonics screening checks provided with your child, encouraging them to look for special friends, Fred talk and then read the word
- Show the video clips/powerpoints from dojo to your children to encourage them to practice. Take note of any sounds that they aren't as confident with and then flashcard this sound to build confidence
- Go on to www.phonicsplay.com and select 'Buried treasure' or 'Dragon's den' and go through the phases (specifically focusing on Phase 3,4 and 5)

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Any questions?

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