

Letters & Sounds



Phase 4

Phase 4

(Reception/Year 1)

In Phase 4 no new phonemes are taught. Children learn to blend and segment longer words. E.g. swim, clap, jump.

To help your child at home, you could:

- Find objects that begin with the phonemes currently being taught.
- Look out for the grapheme on road signs or in books.
- Talk about the beginning and final sounds in simple 3 letter words e.g. hat, pin.
- Play 'I spy'
- Make word cards and encourage your children to find these in books.

Glossary

During the phonics lessons at Eastchurch, we use all the correct terminology with the children. Here is a handy glossary to help you.

Phoneme - is the smallest unit of sound. For example: there are three phonemes in the word *sit* *s-i-t*.

Grapheme - is the written representation of a sound.

Blend - to draw individual sounds together to pronounce a word, e.g. *s-n-a-p*, blended together, reads *snap*

Segment - to split up a word into its individual phonemes in order to spell it, e.g. the word '*cat*' has three phonemes: *c-a-t*.

Digraph - two letters making one sound eg: *sh* or *ch*.

Split digraph - two letters, split, making one sound, e.g. *a-e* as in *make* or *i-e* in *site*

Vowel - the letters *a,e,i,o,u*.

Consonants - The remaining letters of the alphabet.

Phonemes

It is important that we say the sounds correctly, to help with this you could watch the following video.

<http://phonicbooks.wordpress.com/2011/03/13/how-to-say-the-sounds-of-letters-in-synthetic-phonics/>

In Phase 4 we will recap the Phase 3 sounds and working on blending more complex words.

Recap	Words you can read or look for in books
y z zz qu	nest chest land hand pond wind dent chunk
ch sh th ng	gift shift husk desk melt tilt helper
ai ee igh oa	tree frog trash frank drift crab green creep crisp
oi oo ow ar	blend blink flag glass flint fresh clown slept
air ear er ur	pot spin stop step twin twist smell smart
or ure	bench trench scrap shrink strap street thrill

Tricky words:

that	this	will	then	them
see	for	with	now	down
too	he	look	she	we
be	was	me	you	they
are	my	all	her	

Games to play at home with magnetic letters or letters on card:

- Give your child a selection of letters and make some words together. Blend these words to read them as follows: *c-a-t* makes *cat*.
- Lay all the sound cards out face down and put sweets on top. If they get the sound right they can have a sweet.
- Ask the children to make you some words using the word cards.
- Give your child 6 word cards and play bingo, can the children find the sounds you are saying.
- Look at some of the sounds, can your child find objects that begin with that phoneme.
- Make sentences with the word cards.
- Choose a word and write a sentence with this word in.

On the school website there is a set of card with words on that you can use all the above ideas with.