

Tooting Primary School Phonics Evening

Early Years Foundation Stage

At Tooting Primary School to teach Phonics we follow the Letters and Sounds programme, published by the Department for Education and Skills which consists of six phases.

What Is Phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. They are taught how to:

- recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes
- identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make - such as 'sh' 'ff' 'ch' or 'oo'
- blend these sounds together to make a word.

Children can then use this knowledge to 'de-code' new words that they hear or see. This is the first important step in learning to read.

Phonics Terms

Phoneme

A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word. There are about 44 phonemes in the English language.

Graphemes

A grapheme is a symbol of a phoneme. It is a letter or group of letters representing a sound.

Segmenting and blending

Segmenting consists of breaking words down into phonemes to spell.

Blending consists of building words from phonemes to read. Both skills are important.

Digraph

This is when two letters come together to make a phoneme eg. *sh ch ee*

Trigraph

This is when three letters come together to make a phoneme eg. *igh ear ure*

Vowel-consonant, Consonant-Vowel-Consonant.

They are used to describe the order of graphemes in words

e.g. *am (VC), dog (CVC)*

Tricky Words

Words that cannot easily be decoded eg. *the said come*

Nonsense Words

Alien words - *zep zog atp* (words with no meaning)

Phase One

Phase One of 'Letters and Sounds' concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2. The emphasis during Phase One is to get children tuned to the sounds around them and ready to begin developing oral blending and segmenting skills.

Ways to help your child with Phase 1 Activities - singing songs/listening walks/listening to and guessing sounds in the environment /instruments/rhyming words

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190537/Letters_and_Sounds_-_Phase_One.pdf

Phase Two

In this phase children will continue practising what they have learned from Phase 1, including 'sound-talk'.

In Phase 2, letters and their sounds are introduced one at a time. A set of letters is taught each week, in the following sequence:

Set 1: s, a, t, p

Set 2: i, n, m, d

Set 3: g, o, c, k

Set 4: ck, e, u, r

Set 5: h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

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

The children will begin to learn to blend and segment to help begin reading and spelling. This will begin with simple words. We tell children we can sound out and blend the green words.

Use the letter fan to sound out and blend the words. Segment the words eg. /p/a/t/

Words using set 1: s a t p

at	sat	pat	pas	sap
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Words using set 1 and 2:

(+i)	(+n)	(+m)	(+d)
it	an	am	dad
is	in	man	sad
sit	nip	mat	dim
pit	pan	map	din
pip	pin	Pam	did
sip	tan	Tim	Sid
tip	nap	Sam	and
	tin		dip

Words using set 1-3:

(+g)	(+o)	(+c)	(+k)
tag	got	can	kid
gag	on	cot	kit
gig	not	cop	Kim
gap	pot	cap	Ken
nag	top	cat	
sag	dog	cod	
gas	tot		
pig	pop		
dig	mog		

Words using set 1-4:

(+ck)	(+e)	(+u)	(+r)
kick	get	up	rim
sock	pet	mum	rip
sack	ten	run	ram
dock	net	mug	rat
pick	pen	cup	rag
sick	peg	sun	rug
pack	met	mud	rot
tuck	men		

Words using set 1-5:

(+h)	(+b)	(+f and ff)	(+l and ll)	(+ss)
had	but	of	lap	less
him	big	if	let	hiss
his	back	off	leg	mass
hot	bet	fit	lot	mess
hut	bad	fin	lit	boss
hop	bag	fun	bell	fuss
hum	bed	fig	fill	hiss
hit	bud	fog	doll	pass
hat	beg	puff	tell	kiss
has	bug	huff	sell	Tess
hack	bun	cuff	Bill	

Alongside this, children are introduced to *Tricky Words*. These are the words that are irregular. This means that phonics cannot be applied to the reading and spelling of these words. We refer to these as Tricky Words or **Red Words**. We teach children that they do not sound them out. We just look at the word and we recognise it.

The tricky words introduced in Phase 2 are:

to	the	no	go	I
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Phase Three

By the time children reach Phase 3, they will already be able to blend and segment words containing the 19 letters taught in Phase 2. During Phase 3 twenty-five new graphemes are introduced (one at a time).

Set 6: j, v, w, x

Set 7: y, z, zz, qu

Consonant digraphs: ch, sh, th, ng

Vowel digraphs: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

Sounds	Word example
sh	shin
th	thick
ng	song
ai	train
igh	sight
oa	boat
oi	coil
oo (long)	boot
ee	tree

Sounds	Word example
oo (short)	cook
ow	now
ar	star
air	hair
ear	hear
er	term
ur	curl
or	fork
ure	pure

Tricky words:

he	she	we	me	be	was
my	you	they	her	no	go
all	are				

Phonics At Home

Tips for teaching your child the sounds:

- ◆ It is important for a child to learn lower case rather than capital letters at first. Encourage your child to write his/her name with a capital letter at the beginning and then to use lower case letters.
- ◆ When you talk about letters to your child, remember to use the letter sounds whilst also saying the letter name.
- ◆ Magnetic letters are a great resource. Blend sounds together and segment words eg. /b/u/s
- ◆ Make little words together, for example, it, up, am, and, top, dig, run, met, pick.
- ◆ As you select the letters, say them aloud: 'a-m - am', 'm-e-t - met'.
- ◆ Practice Sound-Talking. Find real objects around your home that have three phonemes (sounds) and practise 'sound talk', for example, saying: 'I spy a p-e-g - peg.' 'Simon says - put your hands on your h-ea-d.' 'Simon says - pick up your b-a-g.'
- ◆ Reading -give your child plenty of opportunities to hear you read aloud to him/her. Sound out words for your child to blend.

Useful Phonics Websites

<http://www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm>

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

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com>

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

<http://www.bigbrownbear.co.uk/magneticletters/>

<http://www.starfall.com/n/make-a-word/an/load.htm?f>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/alphablocks/>

