



Year 1 Phonics Screening Check



What Is Phonics?

Children begin to learn phonics (sounds) in Early Years, both Nursery and Reception.

Once children begin learning sounds, they use this knowledge to read and spell words. Children can then see the purpose of learning sounds. For this reason, the first initial sounds that are taught are m, a s, d, t.

These can immediately be blended for reading to make simple CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant) e.g. sat, mad. Children then develop segmenting for writing skills; breaking the word into sounds to spell it out.



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. Monday June 12th. 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. Head teachers should decide whether it is appropriate for each of their pupils to take the phonics screening check.

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt sufficient phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

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.

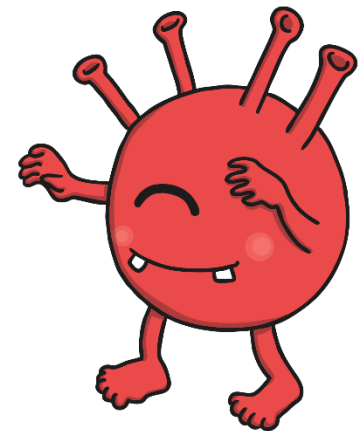
The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child; although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace.

The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.

Pseudo 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.



'Special Friends', 'Fred Talk', read
the word

1.4

ship



Nonsense words



sheb



glight



ched



teb

Example Of The Check

Practice sheet: Real Words

beg

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at

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sum

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in

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Example Of The Check

Practice sheet: Pseudo Words

vap



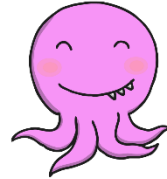
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Reporting To Parents

By the end of the Summer term schools report their child's results to parents, confirming 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.



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.



How Can I Help My Child At Home?

Use links to practise sounds they are weak with – need to know them all really well (use phoneme cards to check)

Play lots of sound and listening games with your child

- use Fred Talk oral blending
- make real words with your phoneme cards
- have fun making silly alien names with phoneme cards (always tell them if it is an alien word)



Always get them to use Special Friends,
Fred Talk and Read the word.

How Can I Help My Child At Home?

- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say special friends, Fred Talk and Read the word. If they are still struggling – say sounds for them and get them to orally blend. Learn the sounds they found tricky!
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.
- Are some practise examples from Twinkl on the website

[Website Link](#)



Any Questions?