

## What is Phonics?

Phonics is the way we teach early reading. We match the sounds letters make to their written symbol.

Learning phonics will help your child with early reading and spelling skills.

## How to say the sounds

Children are taught 'pure sounds'. This simply means rather than saying 'muh, cuh, tuh, nuh' we have to say the sound very softly such as 'mmm...' 'ccc...' 'ttt...' 'nnn...'

This is far more helpful for children to hear and say a word when they need to blend sounds together m-a-t = mat rather than muh-ah-tuh.

## What do these words mean?

**Phoneme** = sound

**Digraph** = 2 letters make 1 sound e.g. sh

**Trigraph** = 3 letters make 1 sound e.g. igh

**Blend** = putting sounds together to read

**Segment** = splitting sounds up to spell

**Tricky Word** = a word that does not make sense when it is 'sounded out' e.g. said

# Parent's Guide to

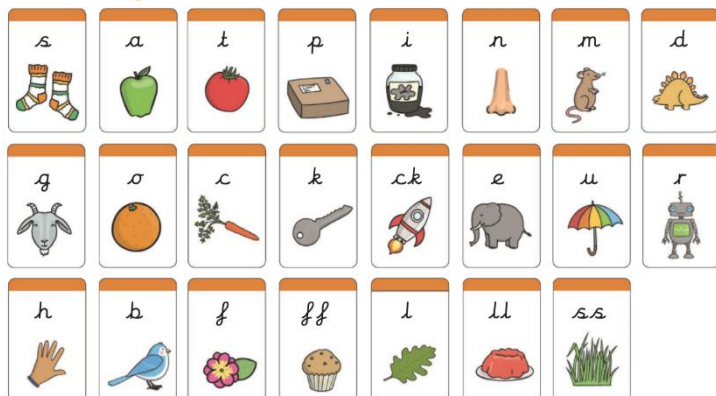
Phonics  
ee ur ow  
wh y au

## How Can I Help at Home?

- Learn how to say the sounds
- Use flashcards/sound mats below to keep the sounds fresh in your child's memory
- Read together – even if just for 5 minutes a day
- Look at Alphablocks website to learn to blend (read) and segment (spell)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownu/the-alphablocks-guide-to-phonics>

## My Phase 2 Sound Mat



## My Phase 3 Sound Mat



## My Phase 5 Sound Mat

