

Phonics Jargon

We teach a 'synthetic phonics scheme'. This simply means that we teach the sounds first and then begin to blend them together them to make whole words.

Below is a glossary of words that teachers use when planning and describing phonics. Children also enjoy learning the technical words for

Phoneme - Smallest unit of sound

Grapheme - Letter sound correspondence

Digraph - Two letter but one sound

Consonant digraph - th, sh, ch, ss, ll, ff, ck, ng

Vowel digraph - ai, ee, ie, oa, ue

Split digraph - a-e, o-e, i-e, u-e, e-e

Trigraph - Three or more letters but one sound



REMEMBER: Phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader.

Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to: sound out, re-read to check it makes sense, use pictures for clues and ask questions about the book.

Most importantly, **ENJOY READING!**

How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Encourage your child to 'sound out' when reading or writing. Focusing particularly on spotting more unusual sound patterns.
- Help your child to complete any phonics homework they bring home.
- Children can practise their phonics by playing games online.

Reading real and alien words

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

(Choose the "free play option")

Games for finding different spellings of sounds

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/phonics/postcard/index.shtml

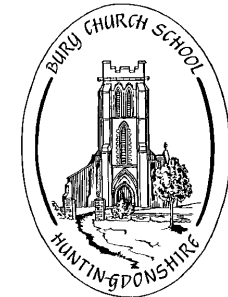
Other fun phonics games

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/longvow/poems/fpoem.shtml

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/

www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kentict/content/games/literacy_menu.html

BURY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read by breaking up words into small chunks of sound.

For example we can break a simple word like 'cat' into the three sounds c-a-t.

To become successful readers children will learn the individual sounds for each letter or group of letters. Some sounds in English are made up of more than one letter like the sound 'ea' in tea or team.

Once children know the sounds they will be able to 'decode' unfamiliar words by breaking the word into sounds then read the word by blending back together. For example:

sh — o — p → shop

Why do we teach phonics?

Research shows that when phonics is taught in a structured way - starting with the easiest sounds, progressing through to the most complex - it's the most effective way of teaching young children to read. It's particularly helpful for children aged 5–7.

Almost all children who have good teaching of phonics will learn the skills they need to tackle new words. They can then go on to read any kind of text fluently and confidently, and to read for enjoyment.

How do we teach it at Bury?

Phonics is most successful when taught using a consistent approach across the school.

At Bury, we use Letters and Sounds. Each child will take part on one or two phonics sessions a day, based on the sounds they need to learn.

Outside the phonics lessons children will practice their phonics skills when reading in guided reading groups.



The books they read, and bring home, are tailored to the phonics that they are learning. This daily practice helps children apply their skills and become fluent readers.

a_e i_e o_e
au e_e u_e
ie ay ea ir aw
ae ay au ew
ph ey ue wh

What is the phonics

screening check?

In the week beginning 12th June the Government require a phonics screening check for all Year 1 children and Year 2 children who did not meet the nationally expected level in Year 1.

Each child will sit with a teacher they know and be asked to read 40 words aloud. Some of the words they may have read before and some words will be completely new to them. The test normally takes few minutes to complete and there is no time limit. If your child is struggling, the teacher can easily stop the test. The test is carefully designed not to be stressful for your child.

The 40 words in the test will be made up of real words and non-words.

What are non-words?

Non-words or pseudo words are non-sense words made up of letter sounds. For example:

'vam' or 'jound'

These words are included in the screening test so they are unfamiliar to the child and therefore test their ability to decode words using phonics.