ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

developed by Knowledge Schools Trust

Getting all children to read well, quickly.

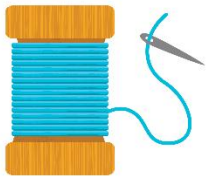


Welcome!

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What are we going to cover?

- What is Phonics?
- What is Essential Letters and Sounds?
- How we teach phonics
- Supporting your child with reading at home
- Pronouncing pure sounds
- Supporting your child with writing at home





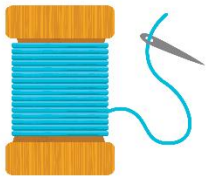
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What is Phonics?

A method of teaching beginners to read and pronounce words by learning to associate letters or letter groups with the sounds they represent.

There are 44 main sounds in the English Language. Each sound is represented by a grapheme (the written representation of a sound).

phonemes



graphemes letters



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What is Phonics? – key terms

Phoneme: the smallest single identifiable sound in a word.
For example, in the word 'cat' there are three phonemes c/a/t.

Grapheme: the written representation of a sound. (the letters)

Digraph: two letters making one sound. For example, /sh/ in the word '**sh**op'.

Trigraph: three letters making one sound. For example, /igh/ in the word 'n**igh**t'.

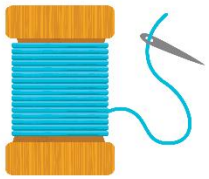
Split digraph: two vowel letters split but are split by one or more consonants. For example, /a-e/ in the word 'c**a**k**e**'.

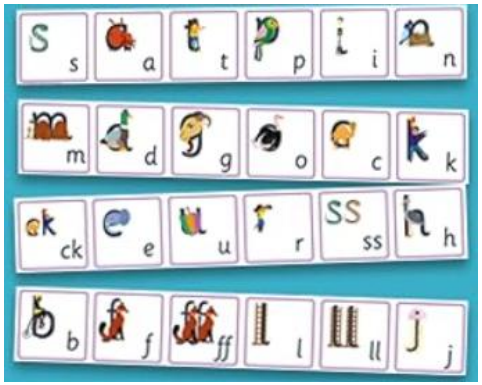
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What is ELS?

Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) is our chosen phonics programme

Children will experience the joy of books and language whilst rapidly acquiring the skills they need to become fluent independent readers and writers.



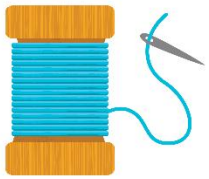




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How do we teach phonics?

- We use a simple, consistent approach to teaching phonics.
- We have mnemonics and rhymes to support learning and recall
- We teach phonics every single day from the first days of Reception



ie



ay

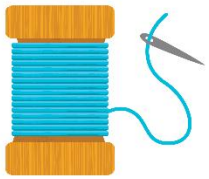




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How do we teach phonics?

- Phonics throughout the day to review new sounds & graphemes taught
- Lots of opportunities for oral blending- /c/ /oa/ /t/
- We teach the ‘code’ for reading, alongside teaching vocabulary.





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How do we teach phonics?

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Teach

These objects all have the /ng/ sound in.

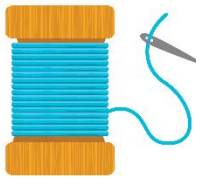
ng







ng ... ng ... ring
ng ... ng ... wing
ng ... ng ... sing





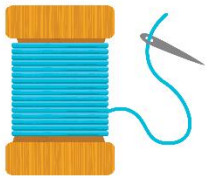
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How do we teach phonics?

Practise | Quit activity

Read the word. Click on the icon to reveal the picture.

net



Practise | Quit activity

Read the word. Click on the icon to reveal the picture.

net





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How do we teach phonics?

Essential Letters and Sounds

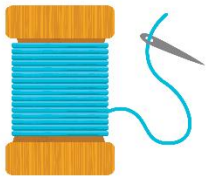
Apply

Quit activity

Read the sentence. Click on the icon to reveal the picture.

Her friend said it was sweater weather.



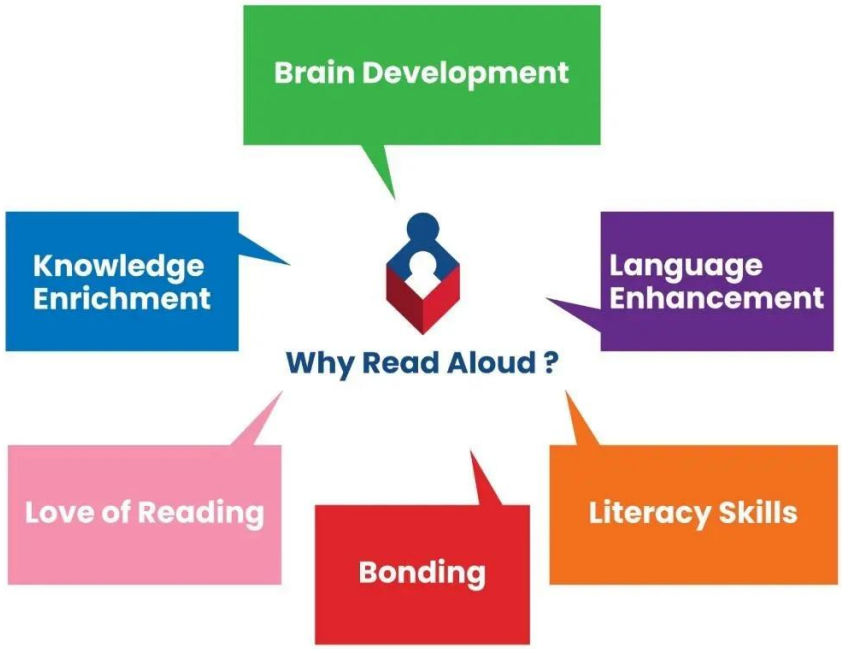




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Supporting your child with reading at home

- Only 1 in 3 children are read a bedtime story night
- Reading a bedtime story every night to your child improves their outcomes
- If your child views themselves as a ‘good reader’ when they leave Primary School they are more likely to earn a higher salary in their 40s.

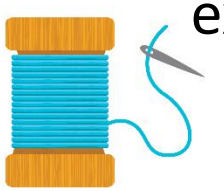


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Supporting your child with reading at home

- Children are only reading from phonics books that are entirely decodable
- Your child should be able to read their book confidently
- We only use pure sounds when decoding words (no ‘uh’ after the sound)
- We want them to practise reading their book 4 times across the week working on these skills:

  decode
  fluency
  expression





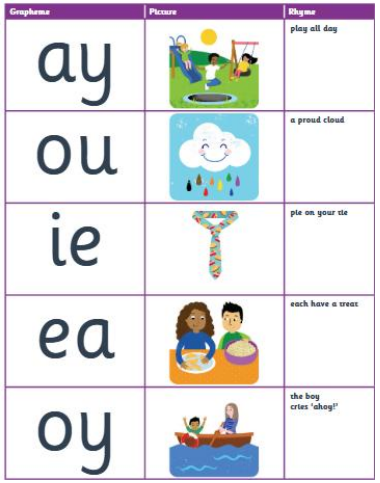
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Supporting your child with reading at home

To read fluently, or well children need to learn sounds spelt by the letters or groups of letters in each word.

To consistently recognise that the <ea> in bread spells /e/, we need to read it at least 4 times. This means we need to read the word many times to build fluency for reading.

We will be sending out GPC's in line with their phonics lessons every two to three weeks. Please keep these safe as teachers will inform families of targeted GPC gaps after assessments throughout the school year.



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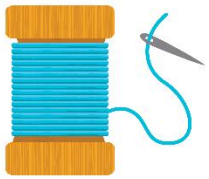
Pronouncing pure sounds

We must use pure sounds when we are pronouncing the sounds and supporting children in reading words.

c a t **not** **cuh a tuh**

If we mispronounce these sounds we will make reading harder for our children.

There are videos for this on our school website where you can hear the correct pronunciation of the sounds.
(Key information – Curriculum – Phonics – Oxford Owl Pure Sounds)







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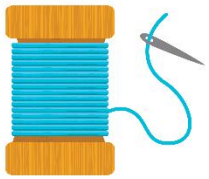
Using phonics to support your child with writing at home



You can use the spelling sequence with your children at home to support them with their writing.

Let's try this with the word: rain

We also practise saying our sentences before we write them to make sure we write the sentence we have planned and to ensure it makes sense!





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Questions

Time to watch phonics in action

Thank you for your support



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