

Nursery Phonics



A Presentation for Parents
and Carers
January 2024

The Importance of Listening Skills

- Phonics learning relies on children being able to hear and distinguish the sounds within words.
- The first phase of formal phonics education (Phase 1) also focuses on key listening skills. Without these skills, children may struggle to master the next stage of their phonics learning.



The Jargon – A Quick Guide

phoneme - Any one of the 44 sounds which make up words in the English language.

grapheme – How a phoneme is written down. For example, ‘s’ ‘t’ etc

blending – Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it, e.g. ‘c-a-t’ Cat

segmenting – Breaking a word into its constituent sounds in order to spell them, e.g. ‘cat, c – a – t’

What does phonics look like in Nursery?

Phase 1 phonics concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundation for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2.

The emphasis during phase 1 is to get children attuned to the sounds around them and ready to begin developing oral blending and segmenting skills.

Phase one is continued all the way through Nursery



Phase One

Phase 1 has seven aspects, with a focus on listening skills. These skill are taught throughout Nursery.

1: Environmental sounds

2: Instrumental sounds

3: Body percussion

4: Rhythm and rhyme

5: Alliteration

6: Voice sounds

7: Oral blending and segmenting



Environmental and Instrumental sounds

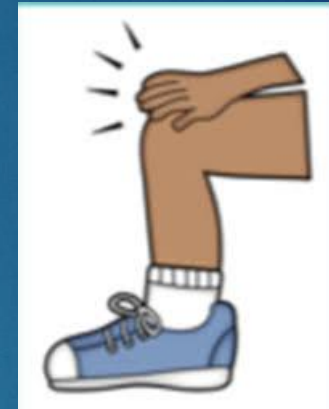
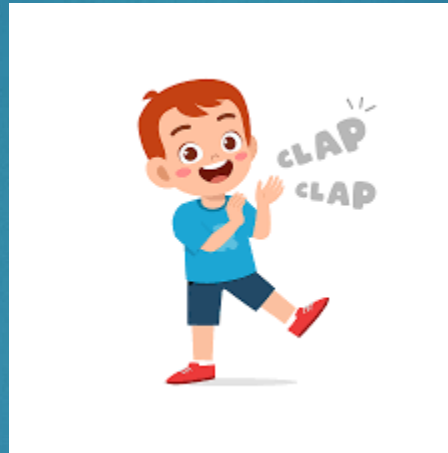
Environmental sounds refer to the common noises we hear all around us in our daily lives. Learning to recognise a sound we hear is an important skill that's learnt in phase 1, as it allows children to understand what's going on in the world around them.




Instrumental sounds, this includes recognising a variety of common instruments such as a piano, a guitar, a drum, a violin, a harp and more.

Body Percussion


Body percussion is the art of striking the body to produce various types of sounds.




Body Percussion




Clap



Snap



Pat



Stomp

A composite graphic with the title "Body Percussion" at the top. Below the title are four illustrations, each with a label underneath: "Clap" (hands clapping), "Snap" (hand snapping fingers), "Pat" (hand patting a knee), and "Stomp" (a foot stomping).

Which words rhyme?

A rhyme is a repetition of similar sounds (usually, exactly the same sound) at the end of the word.



hat



cat



milk



hen



bag



pen

Alliteration

Alliteration focuses on sounds at the beginning of words. Learning about alliteration supports children's listening and recognition skills.

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers

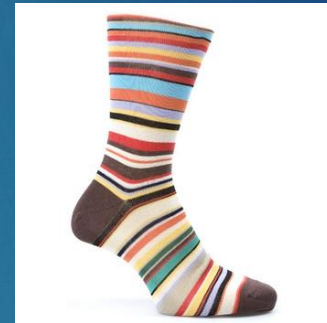
**Carrie's cat clawed her couch,
creating chaos**

Silly Sally sucked satsumas

**SHE SELLS SEA
SHELLS
BY THE SEA SHORE.**

Alliteration

Which object is the odd one out?



Initial Sounds

We play lots of games in Nursery, focusing on the initial sounds in words



bear



Goldilocks



porridge



chair

Blending

Oral blending (Say it fast) is merging the sounds you hear together in your head. You hear the sounds and say the word. e.g. 'dog'. You say the sounds 'd-o-g' and then you are able to 'blend' them into the word 'dog'.

c - a - t



p - i - n



Segmenting

Oral Segmentation (break it down) is when students will hear the individual sounds in word. E.g., the teacher would say the word “cat” and the students would stretch out the word to say each sound slowly- /c/.../a/.../t/.



Phase 2

In Phase 2, Children begin to learn some letter sounds (21 sounds/letters) The children need to recognise the letters by sight and say the sound instantly- **Handout**

**The letters are learnt
in this order:**

s a t p

i n m d

g o c k

ck e u r

h b ff l ll ss

Ways you can help at home

- ▶ Make it fun, short and often
- ▶ Read to your child and talk about the book-discuss what you can see, what might happen next in the story.
- ▶ Play 'I Spy' using the initial sounds of words.
- ▶ Encourage children to teach you the 'Jolly Phonic' song they've learned at Nursery.
- ▶ Listen to 'Jolly Phonics' songs on YouTube and sing them with your child.
- ▶ Hunt for letters in the environment, talk about the sounds these letters make, e.g. stop, Asda.
- ▶ Identify different sounds you can hear in the environment e.g. helicopters, birds, and footsteps.
- ▶ Read/spell simple words with magnetic letters.
- ▶ Make simple funny Alliteration phrases with your child's name in them.

Fisher Family Trust: Success for all phonics

- ▶ School follow a Programme called Fisher Family Trust-Success for all phonics.
- ▶ This programme allows all the children to join in chorally as a class
- ▶ We teach the children the rhyme and Action to go with sound (see sheet)
- ▶ Rhyme to go with each sound –Letter formation cue (see sheet)

Fisher Family Trust: Success for all phonics

We learn one sound a week and focus on this sound but also keep going with phase 1 phonics.

- ▶ Introduction of the sound of the week
- ▶ Model sound of the new letter
- ▶ Write new grapheme (letter) as a lower case letter whilst saying the cue
- ▶ All the children to have a go writing the new letter
- ▶ Have a look at some objects that start with the sound (S-snake, sock, snow etc) children to give thumbs up or thumbs down
- ▶ Model lots of blending and segmenting of words. Children join in orally as a class. (e.g. Say it fast, Break it down)

Useful Websites/Apps

www.lettersandsounds.com

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

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

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com/>

You Tube Jolly Phonics Phase 2 songs

Meet the Alphablocks!

ABC Pocket Phonics

Hairy letters

Splashlearn:learning games

Some Activities to complete with your child

- ▶ Sound stampers on paper
- ▶ Throw beanbag into the hoop –which sound is it?
- ▶ Make the sound in flour
- ▶ Fly swat sounds
- ▶ Find the sounds in the tray with tweezers
- ▶ Sort objects into the right hoop
- ▶ Guess the object making the sound
- ▶ Practice writing the sounds on whiteboards

