



A COMPLETE PHONICS RESOURCE
TO SUPPORT CHILDREN

Teach reading: change lives

Parent session: Supporting your child to meet the expected standard in the
Phonics Screening Check

April 2025

What this session aims to support parents/carers with



1. Understand exactly what the Phonics Screening Check is, when it happens and how it is delivered to your children.
2. Equip you with the knowledge you need to support your children accurately.
3. Show you what your child needs to be able to read in order to meet the expected standard in the Phonics Screening Check.
4. Give you resources and show you where to find useful resources for helping your children.
5. Answer any questions you may have about the Phonics Screening Check.



The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

- All Year 1 children take the Phonics Screening Check in June. This year, the check will take place during the week commencing Monday 9th June.
- The check tests a child's knowledge of sounds, as well as their ability to blend sounds together, by asking children to apply this knowledge and skill to alien (made up) words.
- The test is made up of 20 real words and 20 alien words. The next slide shows what the check looks like.
- The children **do not know they are doing any sort of 'test' and we do not put any pressure on them at all**. We simply tell them they are going to do some reading, which isn't unusual at all. Please support us by not telling your children about the check, you too can tell them you're practising reading words.
- Your child will complete the check individually with either their class teacher or with Mrs Fletcher. It is done in a quiet room that has no visual aids on the walls that could help them. Staff ensure the children feel comfortable and are happy to 'read the words with them'.
- You will find out how many words your child read correctly when you receive your child's annual report.
- Those that do not meet the expected standard (which has always been 32 out of 40 but this could change) resit the check the following June when they are in Year 2. They will receive additional support with their Phonics. We assess the children regularly as soon as they start learning Phonics with us in Reception so if your child doesn't pass the check, it is likely there is already additional support in place for them.

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Section 2

swept

dreams

scrap

strike

Section 2

elbow

tailor

sequins

whirling

slimp



craint



splet



strave

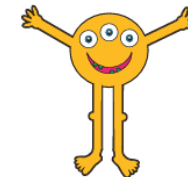


Section 2

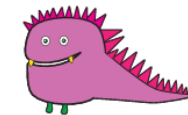
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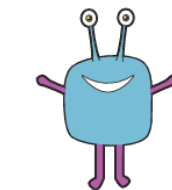
drave



teap

































phibe



Pronouncing the sounds accurately



 s ss	 t tt	 p pp	 n nn	 m mm	 d dd	 g gg	 c k ck cc	 r rr
 h	 b bb	 f ff	 l ll	 j	 v vv	 w	 x	 y
 z zz s	 qu	 ch	 sh	 th	 ng	 nk		

 a	 e	 i	 o	 u
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Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 2



Phase 3 sounds taught in Reception Spring 1



How to say Phase 5 sounds

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Flashcards

We recommend you practice reading phoneme flashcards with your child every day. You can buy them or make them.

If children can't recognise the sounds quickly, they won't be able to blend them in words.

- Use them to make short words.
- Put them up around the house or your child's bedroom.
- Only practice them for a short amount of time.
- Your child's class teacher may let you know if they need to practice certain phonemes.
- Let your child play the role of the teacher!
- Little Wandle sell 'At home' flashcard packs. There are 2 packs for the sounds taught in Reception and 1 pack for the sounds taught in Year 1. They're around £7 a pack.
- Although they say Reception and Year 1 on them, all children would benefit from this resource.
- If you need help with purchasing them, please let us know.



https://www.amazon.co.uk/Little-Wandle-Phonics-Flashcards-Reception/dp/000856373X/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?crd=179BXO2PUT07&keywords=little+wandle+at+home&qid=1700667648&sprefix=little+wandle+at%2Caps%2C181&sr=8-1-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&pssc=1



https://www.amazon.co.uk/Little-Wandle-Phonics-Flashcards-Reception/dp/000858754X/ref=sr_1_2_sspa?crd=179BXO2PUT07&keywords=little+wandle+at+home&qid=1700667648&sprefix=little+wandle+at%2Caps%2C181&sr=8-2-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&pssc=1



https://www.amazon.co.uk/Little-Wandle-Home-Phonics-Flashcards/dp/0008563748/ref=sr_1_3?crd=179BXO2PUT07&keywords=little+wandle+at+home&qid=1700667648&sprefix=little+wandle+at%2Caps%2C181&sr=8-3



Let's read some of the words together



chip



Let's read some of the words together

elbow

Let's read some of the words together

Alternative grapheme

↓
sequins

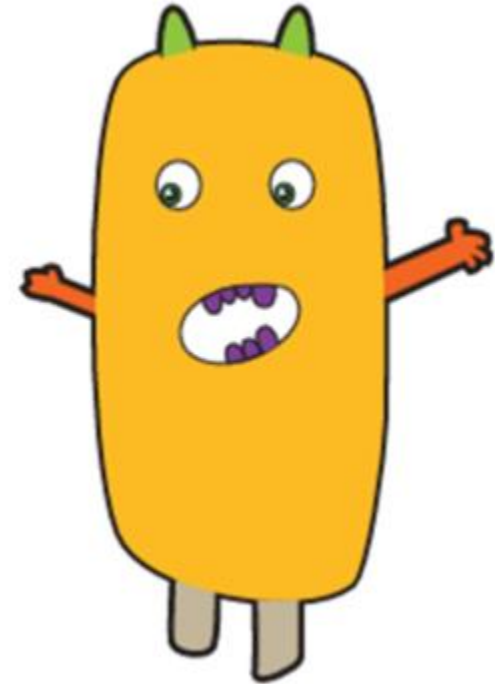
Let's read some of the words together



Let's read some of the words together



ult



Let's read some of the words together



Which real word do you think a lot of children assume this is?

Let's read some of the words together

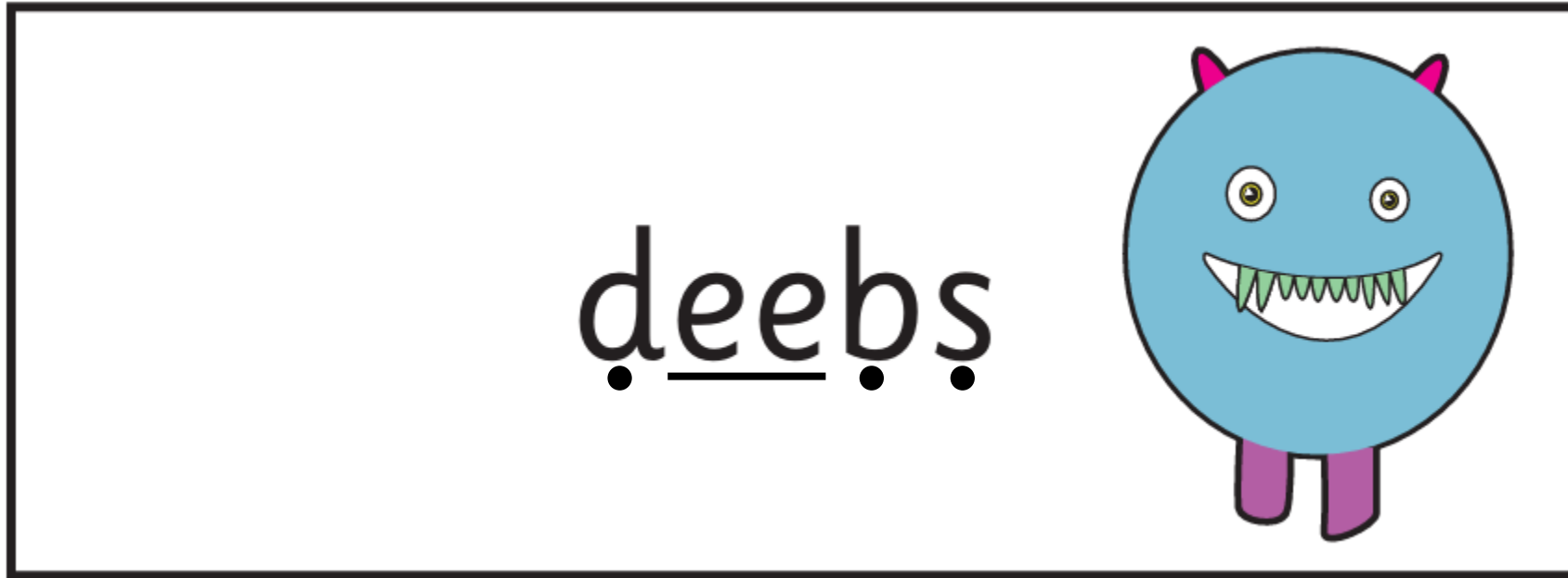


Children often read this as
'ur' for curl the fur.

trun



Let's read some of the words together

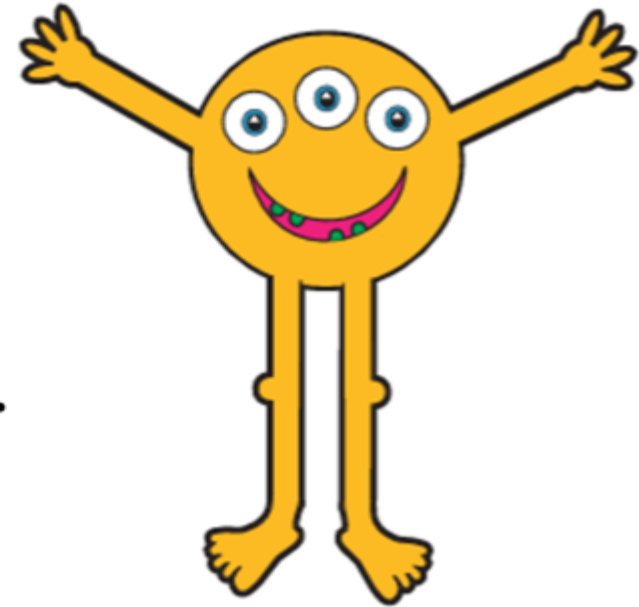


When reading a word that has an 's' on the end, encourage your child to read the word without the s on the end and then add it on.

Let's read some of the words together



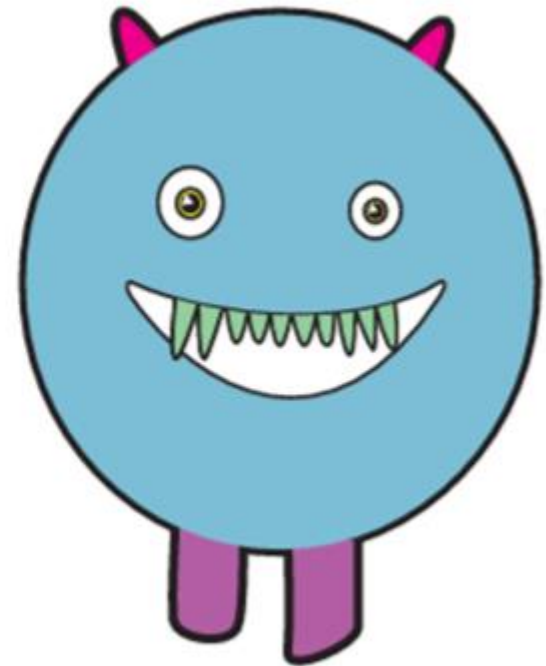
smung



Let's read some of the words together



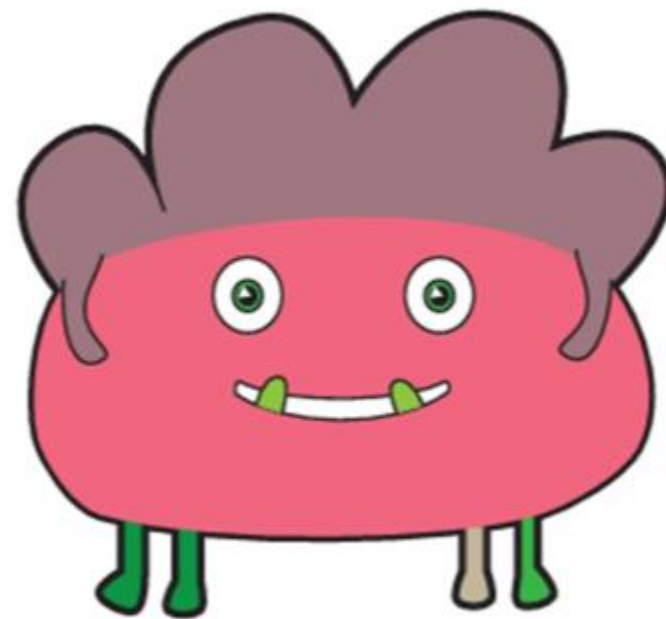
flards



Let's read some of the words together

Children often think this
type of k is a capital r.

whike

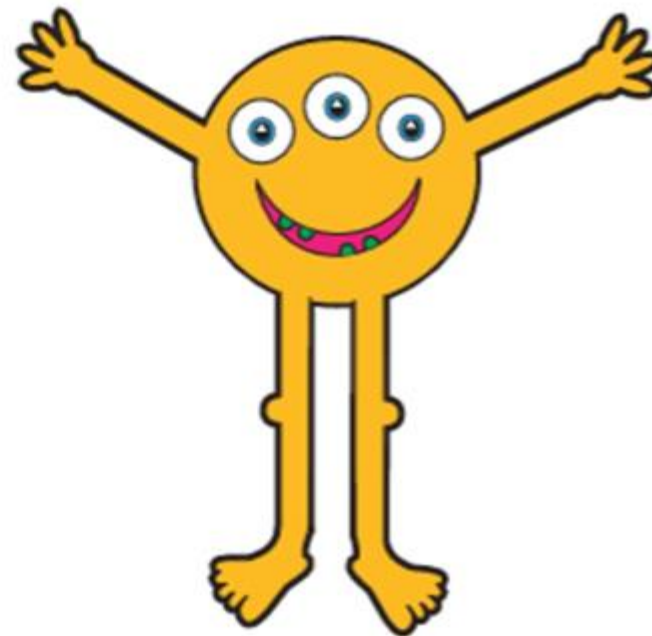


Let's read some of the words together



drave

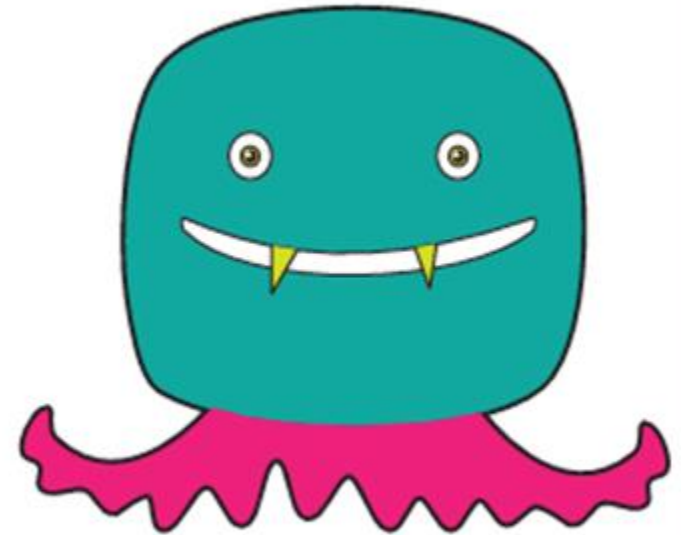
Children sometimes read this as 'ar'
for 'march in the dark', missing the
split digraph completely.



Let's read some of the words together



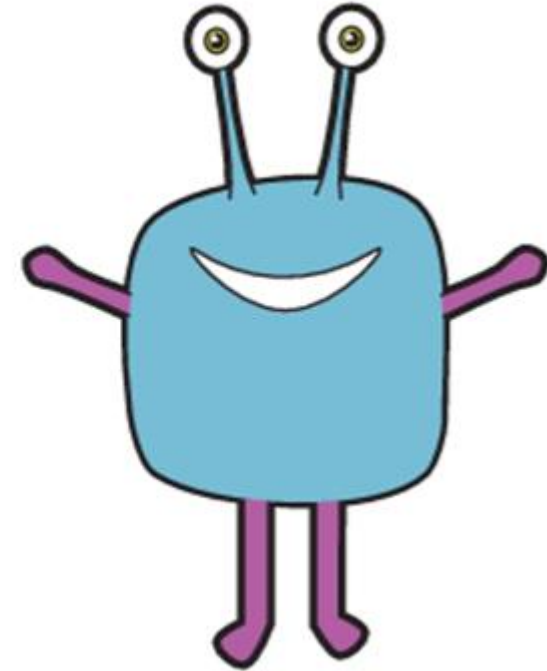
craint



Let's read some of the words together



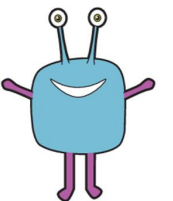
phibe



Tips for reading words in the Check

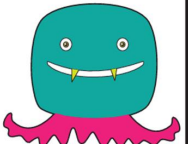
- When a child reads a word incorrectly, we cannot tell them they've made a mistake, we just have to mark it as incorrect. Encourage your child to self-correct by praising them when they do this on their own.
- Some children can read words on sight or can blend sounds in their heads. When reading an alien word it's really important the children say the sounds out loud and then blend them.
- If a child says the sounds correctly, but with a gap or pause, it is marked as incorrect. Encourage your child to always go back and say the word again after they've said the sounds, even if they're very close to saying the full word. E.g. ph-ibe.

phibe



Tips for reading words in the Check

- At the start of each page we tell the children if the page contains real or alien words. This helps them to listen to what they're reading because sometimes they blend an alien word and say a real word. They need to learn to recognise that if they've said a real word, it cannot be correct.
- More confident readers who are already able to read words on sight, often assume they know a word and say it automatically. They must say the sounds and then blend them.
- If they want to, the children can use a pencil to draw on sound buttons but be wary because this does actually hinder some children.
- There are children who will struggle to concentrate for long enough to read all 40 words so we will ensure they are given sufficient breaks.

craint 

The word "craint" is written in a simple, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter 'a' is underlined. To the right of the word is a small, teal, alien-like character with a round head, two small eyes, and a wide, toothy grin. It has a pink, ruffled collar around its neck.

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

How can I support my child?



- Take home a copy of an old Phonics Screening Check paper to practise with your child.
- Read with your child 5 times a week.
- Practise flash-carding the sounds.
- Read 2 alien words a day. You can access previous Phonics Screening Check papers online if you need more.
- Year 1 class teachers are going to send home alien words for your child to practise reading at home.
- Make up alien words together.
- Get your child to point out digraphs/trigraphs/split-digraphs when you're reading together.
- Practise oral blending, "We need to buy some a-pp-le-s."
- Use websites such as <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> which has games that involve blending alien words.

Phonics Play

Popular Resources



PhonicsPlay Comics
Decodable comics from PhonicsPlay



Dragons Den
Good for: Practising blending



Picnic on Pluto
Good for: Practising blending



Welcome To The Zoo
Good for: Listening and copying



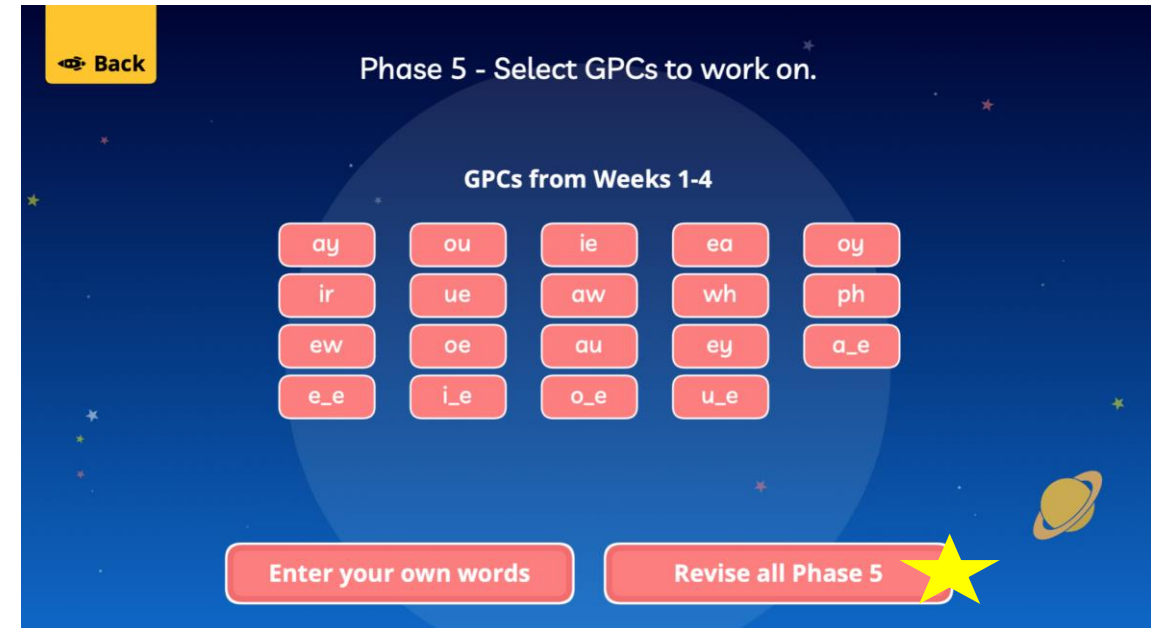
Planetary Plurals
Good for: Practising plural rules



Buried Treasure
Good for: Practising blending



The stars show the games that are particularly good for helping children to meet the expected standard in the Phonics Screening Check.





**One of the greatest gifts adults can
give is to read to children**

Carl Sagan

