ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

developed by Knowledge Schools Trust

Getting all children to read well, quickly.



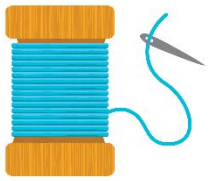
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E-Safety

- Staying safe online in school
- How do your children access the internet?

  Xbox, PlayStation, iPads, iPhones
- Child friendly versions of apps
- NSPCC website

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/



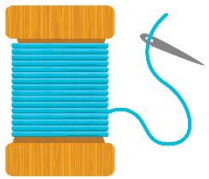


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What is Phonics?

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).





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What is Phonics?

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.

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

Trigraph: three letters making one sound. For example, /igh/ in the word 'night'.

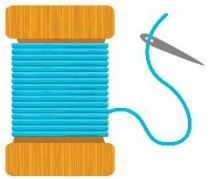
Split digraph: two vowel letters split but are split by one or more consonants. For example, /a-e/ in the word 'cake'.

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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?

ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

Teach

These objects all have the /ng/ sound in.

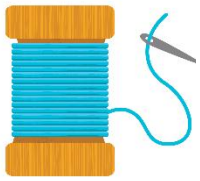
ng







ng … ng … ring
ng … ng … wing
ng … ng … sing





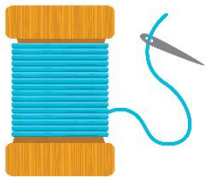
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How do we teach phonics?

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

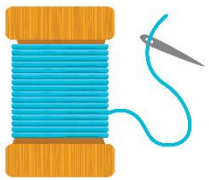
Apply

Quit activity

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

Her friend said it was sweater weather.



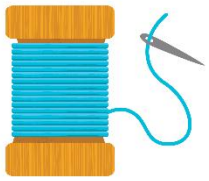




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ELS Progression

Phase 1*	Phase 2	Phase 3**
Nursery/Pre-School Seven aspects: • Environmental sounds • Instrumental sounds • Body percussion • Rhythm and rhyme • Alliteration • Voice sounds • Oral blending	*Reception Autumn 1* • Oral blending • Sounding out and blending with 23 new grapheme-phoneme correspondences (GPCs) • 12 new harder to read and spell (HRS) words	*Reception Autumn 2, Spring 1 and Spring 2* • Oral blending • Sounding out and blending with 29 new GPCs • 32 new HRS words • Revision of Phase 2

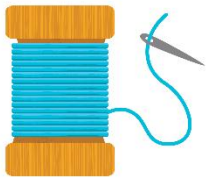




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ELS Progression

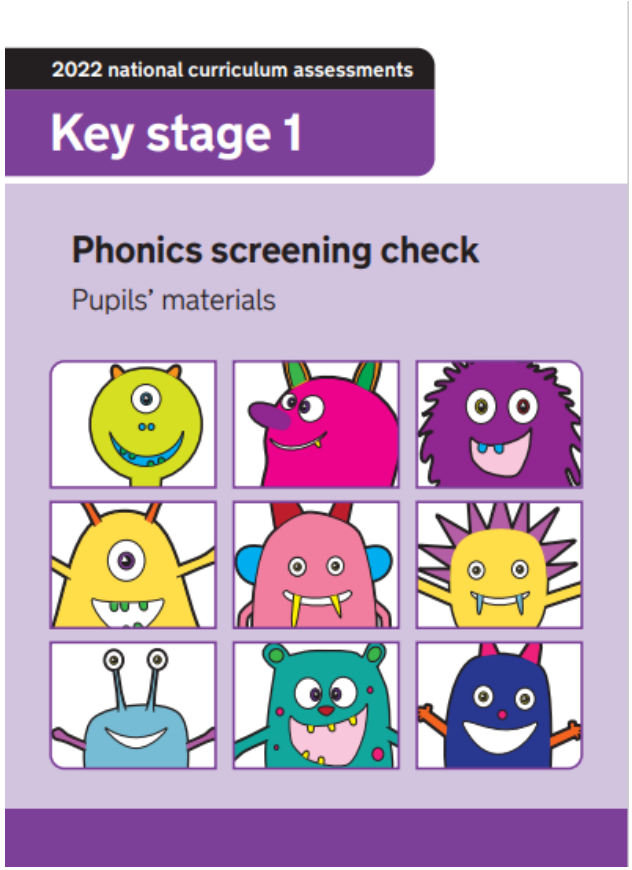
Phase 4**	Phase 5 including alternatives and lesser-known GPCs	Beyond Phase 5
Reception Summer 1 • Oral blending • No new GPCs • No new HRS words • Word structures – cvcc, ccvc, ccvcc, cccvc, cccvcc • Suffixes • Revision of Phase 2 and Phase 3	*Reception Summer 2* • Introduction to Phase 5 for reading • 20 new GPCs • 16 new HRS words *Year 1 Autumn 1 and 2* • Revision of previously taught Phase 5 GPCs • 2 new GPCs • 9 new HRS words *Year 1 Spring 1 and 2* • Alternative spellings for previously taught sounds • 49 new GPCs • 4 new HRS words • Oral blending • Revision of Phase 2, Phase 3 and Phase 4	*Year 1 Summer, Year 2 and Key Stage 2* • With ELS, phonics teaching does not stop at the end of Year 1, but continues as children move through the school, with links being made between their GPC knowledge and spelling • Revision of all previously taught GPCs for reading and spelling • Wider reading, spelling and writing curriculum

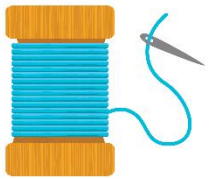




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Year One Phonic Screening



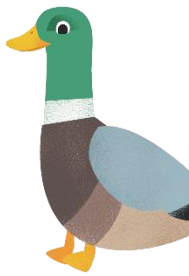




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What is the PSC?

- Phonics Screening Check is a statutory assessment conducted in the Summer Term of Year One.
- Introduced in 2011, to ensure that all children have learnt phonic decoding to an age-appropriate standard.
- The aim of the PSC was to encourage all schools to pursue a rigorous phonics programme for all children from the start of primary school.

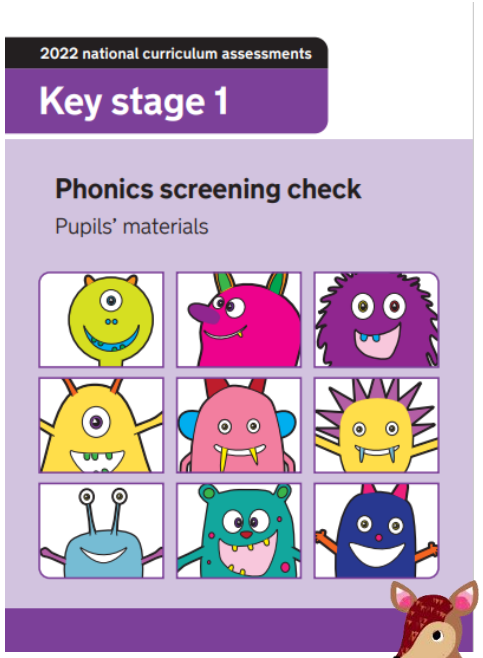


What does the PSC assess?

40 words

Section 1: 8 real words and 12 pseudo words

Section 2: 12 real words and 8 pseudo words





Key Information

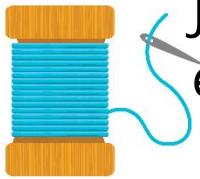
- Pseudo words are not real words. In the assessment, these words will have an alien image next to them. Your child may call them ‘alien words’.
- All accents will be taken into account when the child is answering.
- Any pronunciation difficulties will be taken into account.
- Your child’s final answer is what we will take.



Supporting your child with reading at home

- We send home 2 books each week, plus an online book, plus their library book
- Your child should be able to read their guided reading books confidently
- We only use pure sounds when decoding words (no 'uh' after the sound)
- We want them to practise reading their books 4 times across the week working on these skills:

  decode
  fluency
  expression





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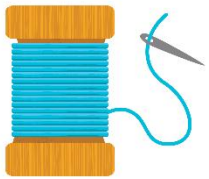
Pronouncing pure sounds

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.

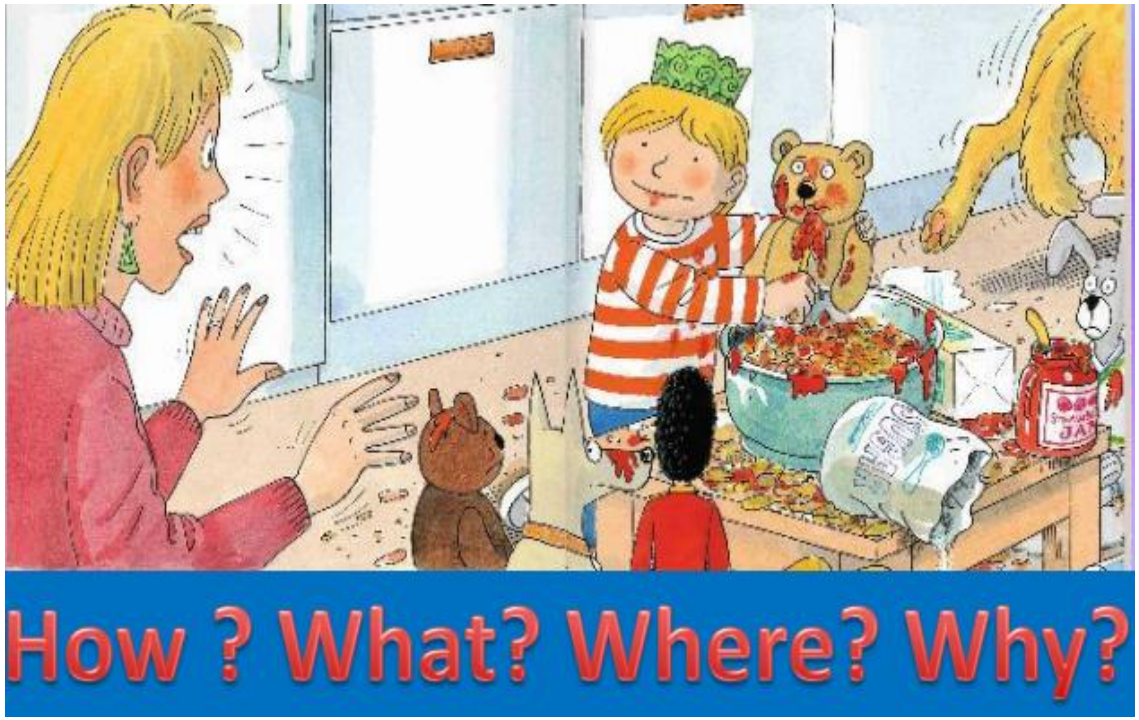


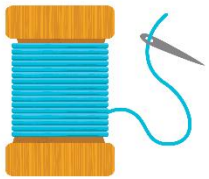


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Early Comprehension

Reading isn't a race, and reading isn't just about being able to read words.







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Early Comprehension

- Good readers can discuss and tell you what they have read about and retell the story in their own words.
- Good readers can tell you how a character is feeling even if it isn't explicit in the text.
- Good readers predict what might happen next.
- Good readers will link events in their own life or something they have read previously to their reading.
- Good readers read widely.
- Good readers are read to regularly.
- Good readers love sharing books.
- Good readers make great writers.
- Good readers ask what new words mean.
- Good readers have a love of books and a thirst to read and learn more.

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Activity

Choose one of the book review templates and a book to review

Read the book together. Here are some questions you could discuss:

- Who is the main character?
- How is this person feeling?
- What might happen next?
- Did you enjoy this story? Why/why not?
- Does this book remind you of any other stories you know?
- Has anything like this ever happened to you?
- What would you do if you were this person?
- Can you retell the story to me?
- What does this word mean?



ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

Questions

Please feel free to email the Year 1 team any time!

s4year1@blossomfield.solihull.sch.uk



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