

Terminology used when teaching and learning phonics.

Your child will be hearing new terminology to help them understand further how they are learning phonics to help them with their reading and writing progression.

Phoneme — the smallest unit of sound. There are approximately 44 phonemes in the English language. Phonemes can be put together to make words. A phoneme is the sound/sounds you hear in a word.

Grapheme — This is the writing down of the phoneme we hear. Graphemes can be made up of 1, 2, 3 or 4 letters.

GPC — This is short for Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence. Knowing a GPC means being able to match a phoneme to a grapheme and vice versa.

Digraph — A grapheme containing two letters that just represents one sound in a word

Trigraph - A grapheme containing three letters but make just one sound.

Sound buttons — Dots and dashes placed underneath each sound in a word to show how many sounds in the word and which letters represent each sound.

Oral blending/blending — Hearing phonemes and being able to merge them together to make a word. Oral blending is a skill children will learn before they can blend a written word. When blending written words they look at each grapheme, using their knowledge of GPCs they decide which phoneme each grapheme represents and merge them together to read the word.

Oral segmenting/segmenting — The act of hearing a whole word and splitting it up into the phonemes that make it. Following this children use their knowledge of GPCs to decide which graphemes represent the phonemes they are hearing in order to write the word.

Syllable — A unit of pronunciation which has one vowel sound, surrounded by consonants.

Ascender — The part of a letter extending above the top of an x. For example – t, h, l, k, f, b, d

Descender — The part of the letter which extends below the base of an x. For example – q, y, p, g, j

Split digraph — A grapheme where the two letters working together to create a phoneme have been split and another letter popped in the middle. The grapheme represents the long vowel sound.

For example; a-e as in cake

Compound word— When two or more words are joined together to create a new word that has an entirely different meaning.

Prefix— A word or letter added to the front of a word.

Suffix— A morpheme added to the end of the word

In addition to the sounds being learnt your child will also learn our 'Tricky' words – these are words which are not decodable.

Phase 2 Tricky	Phase 3 Tricky	Phase 4 Tricky	Phase 5 Tricky
<p>I go no the to into</p> <p><u>High Frequency</u> <u>Words</u></p> <p>and in it</p>	<p>he she said we me my was you they be her all are</p>	<p>were have so there like little do one when some out come what</p>	<p>oh looked their people called Mr Mrs asked could</p>