

Phonics in Reception



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**A love of reading is the biggest indicator
of future academic success.**

OECD (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)

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How many times have you read today?



What is phonics?

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Phonics is:

making connections between the sounds
of our spoken words and the letters that
are used to write them down.

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At Worstead we use Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

TM

Terminology

- **Phoneme** - The smallest unit of sound that can be identified in words
- **Grapheme** - A letter or group of letters used to represent a particular phoneme when writing.
- **Digraph** - A grapheme using two letters to represent one phoneme (ch/sh/ng)
- **Trigraph** - A grapheme using three letters to represent one phoneme (igh/air)
- **Blend** - To combine individual phonemes into a whole word.
- **Segment** - To identify each of the individual phonemes in a word.

Phonemes

- Not taught in alphabetical order.
- Pronunciation is important. Use clear sounds.

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

Phase 2 grapheme information sheet

Autumn 1

Grapheme and mnemonic	Picture card	Pronunciation phrase	Formation phrase
 s	 snake	Show your teeth and let the s hiss out sssss sssss	Under the snake's chin, slide down and round its tail.
 a	 astronaut	Open your mouth wide and make the 'a' sound at the back of your mouth aaa	Around the astronaut's helmet, and down into space.
 t	 tiger	Open your lips; put the tip of your tongue behind your teeth and press ttt	From the tiger's nose to its tail, then follow the stripe across the tiger.
 p	 penguin	Bring your lips together and push them open and say ppp	Down the penguin's back, up and round its head.
 i	 iguana	pull your lips back and make the 'i' sound at the back of your mouth iii	Down the iguana's body, then draw a dot (on the leaf) at the top.
 n		Open your lips a bit, put your tongue behind your teeth and make the nnnnn sound nnnnn	Down the stick, up and over the net.

Blending

We teach blending so your child learns to read

- Teacher led blending is taught throughout Phase 2.
- Our aim is that every child is blending by Christmas.
- We will inform you if your child needs additional practice.

How we teach blending:

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

Tricky Words

- These words have unusual spellings e.g. he, was my.
- Teachers identify what is tricky about the word.
- Once children become familiar with these words they can then read them by sight.
- This term we shall be learning: is I the

Spelling

- Your child will be taught how to spell simple words, using the graphemes they have been taught.
- They will practise the correct formation of letters. They will also have handwriting lessons.

We teach spelling by:

Say the word.

Segment the sounds.

Count the sounds.

Write them down.



Reading books

- Reading practise/ phonetically decodable book (Fluency and confidence is our aim)

(These have a green sticker on them and are for your child to read to you)

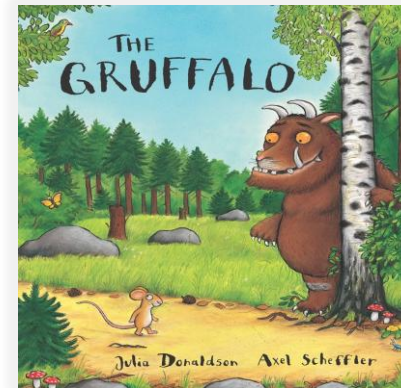
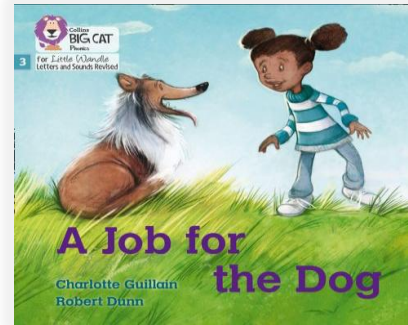
- Sharing Book (Modelling reading skills and vocabulary)

(These are from the shelf or boxes in our classroom and for you to read to your child)

Reading record (Yellow book):

Please only record the books your child reads to you.

If they read at home 3 times in a week they are given a stamp. Once their stamp card is full they receive a special certificate.



The most important thing you can do is read with your child



Reading a book and chatting had a positive impact a year later on children's ability to...

- understand words and sentences
- use a wide range of vocabulary
- develop listening comprehension skills.

The amount of books children were exposed to by age 6 was a positive predictor of their reading ability two years later.



Parental involvement in the development of children's reading skills: A five-year longitudinal study (2002) Senechal, M. and Lefvre, J

Helping your child at home . . .

- Make it fun!
- Rhyming games
- Oral blending games
- Read to children, read with them, listen to them
- Make up stories together
- Let them see you reading
- Celebrate their success!

You can find lots more information about Little Wandle Letters and Sounds on the following link. It has some very useful videos which demonstrate reading and phonics in school.

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