



HOW CHILDREN LEARN

Phonics

At Layston First School

Being able to read is the most important skill children will learn during their early schooling and has far-reaching implications for lifelong confidence and well-being.

'Letters and Sounds'

Principles and practice of high quality phonics

DID YOU KNOW...?

The English language has:

26 letters



44 sounds

Over 100 ways to spell those sounds



PHONICS TERMINOLOGY

phonics - The teaching of reading by developing awareness of the sounds in words and the corresponding letters used to represent those sounds.

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

grapheme - How a phoneme is written down. There can be more than one way to spell a phoneme. For example, the phoneme 'ay' is spelt differently in each of the words 'way', 'make', 'fail', 'great', 'sleigh' and 'lady'.

digraph - a combination of two letters representing one phoneme e.g ch in chip , ng in king, oa in boat.

trigraph - a combination of three letters representing one phoneme e.g igh in light, air in hair.

split digraph - a digraph which is split by a consonant e.g ie in pile

blending - Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it, e.g. 'f - r - o - g, frog'

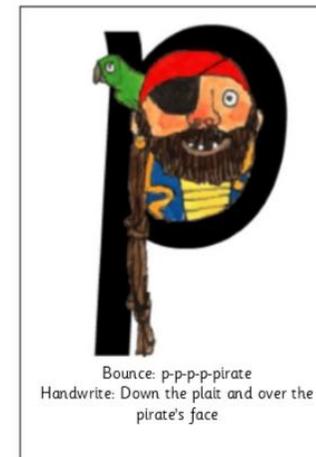
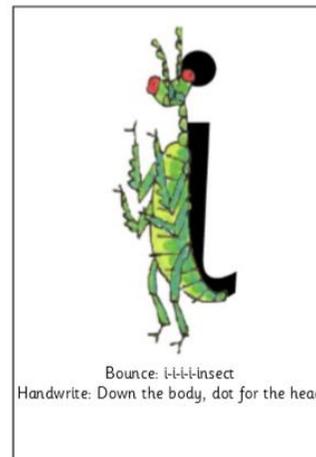
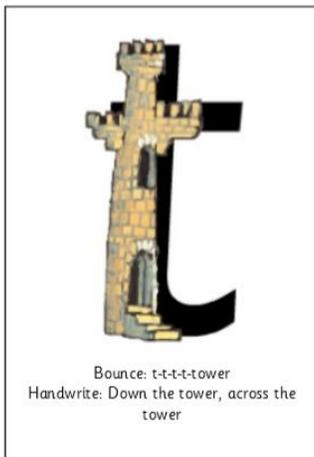
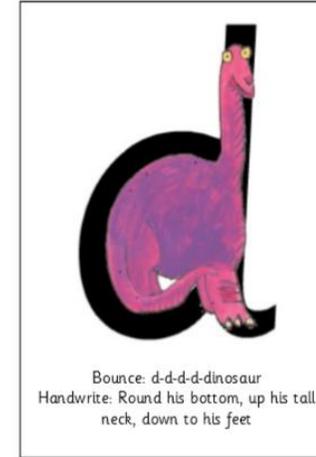
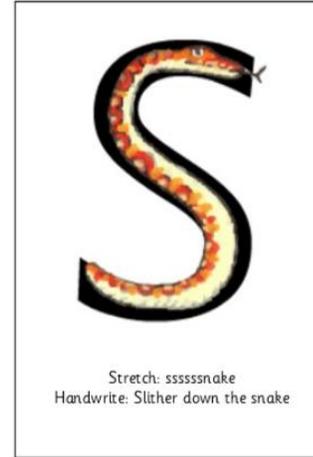
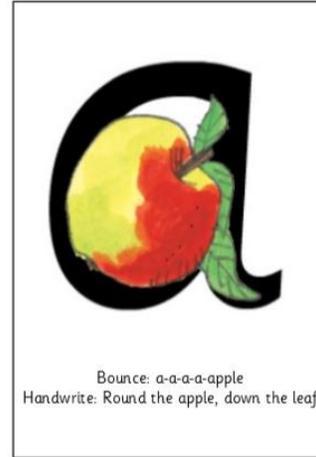
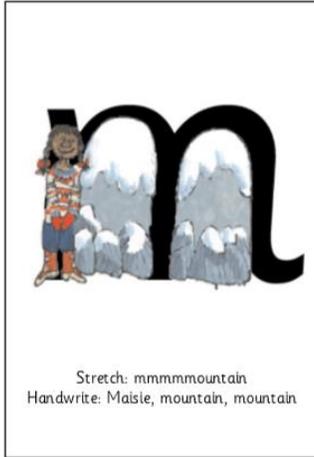
segmenting - Breaking a word into its constituent sounds in order to spell them, e.g. 'frog, f - r - o - g'

HOW DO WE TEACH PHONICS IN SCHOOL?

Daily sessions:

- *Read Write Inc.*
- *Learn new sounds*
- *Speed sounds*
- *Letter formation*
- *Fred fingers – oral blending*
- *Word time – blending, reading, segmenting, write*
- *Ditty or storybook – reading to writing*

SOUND CARDS



LETTER FORMATION

Use the patters - such as 'm' 'Maisy, mountain, mountain'

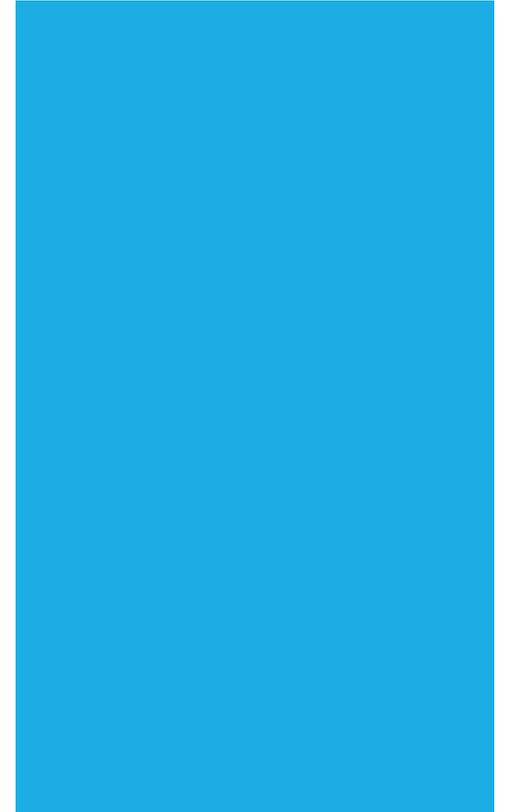
In the air writing

Practise on paper or white boards

Quick write

Large motor and fine manipulative development

Pencil grips



BLENDING

Drawing individual phonemes together to make a word, e.g. d-o-g – dog, sh-o-p – shop.

Fred fingers - Fred talks in sounds and children oral blend the word.

Green words linking to the sounds that we have learnt.

HAVE A GO AT BLENDING THESE GREEN WORDS

cat

shop

them

chin

quiz

bang

SEGMENTING

To split up a word into its individual phonemes in order to spell it.

Start with CVC words.

e.g. 'cat' has three phonemes: c - a - t

Hold a sentence 'a cat on a mat'

e.g. 'a c - a - t o-n a m - a - t.

RED WORDS

Or tricky words, common exception words, high frequency words.

These are words which do not follow the phonics rules and cannot be blended or segmented.

e.g. *to, the, said, he, she, I, of, my, no*

We teach the children to learn these words by sight.

HOW CAN I HELP AT HOME?

Play lots of sound and listening games, such as: I spy, word bingo, listening walks.

Practise sounds sent home from school regularly.

Read as much as possible to and with your child.

Both model and support your child with blending and segmenting phonemes in words.

Encourage and praise your child.

Practise building words with magnetic letters or cards.

Practise segmenting phonemes in words and writing the corresponding grapheme.

Remember to practise little and often.

Watch Geraldine the Giraffe together (YouTube).

Watch Alphablocks – cBeebies.

Websites - Teach your Monster to Read.

Website - Top Marks.

HOW SHOULD I READ TO MY CHILD?

- As you read to your child, bring the characters to life – talk about the characters, the drawings and the events so that the story starts to come alive.
- Don't be afraid to try different voices or try out your acting skills. Your child will enjoy your performance and appreciate the story even more.
- Remember that your face says it all – so exaggerate your normal expression times three, children will love it.
- Emphasise repeated words and phrases ('the big bad wolf'; '... blew, and blew, and blew the house down'). In this way, your child starts to learn the language used in books. Encourage your child to say the words with you.
- Turn off the television and concentrate on enjoying the book.
- Try audio books that children can listen to on computers or phones – this is a great way to build a child's understanding of stories and improve their listening.

**ANY
QUESTIONS?**

