



Year 1 Phonics Screening Check



What Is The Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1, or they have not taken the check before. Head teachers should decide whether it is appropriate for each of their pupils to take the phonics screening check.

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt sufficient phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

What Happens During The Check?



The check contains 40 words.

Each child will sit one to one and read each word aloud to a teacher.

The check will take approximately 10 minutes per child; although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace.

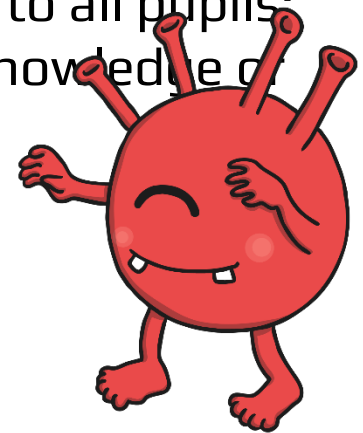
The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.

We normally explain that the pseudo words are the alien names.

Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.



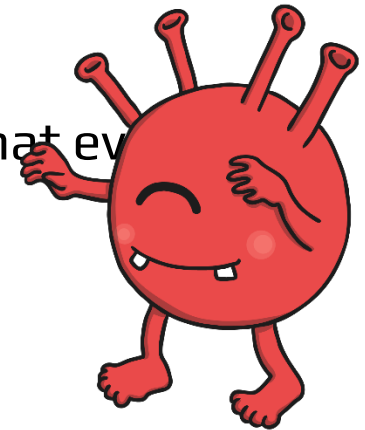
What Is Sound Buttoning?

Sound buttons are spots and lines that are drawn underneath a sound to support reading. When you touch the sound button you then practice saying the word out loud.

We draw a dot, circle or button under single sounds e.g. c, d, i, y.

A line where two or three letters make one sound (a digraph or trigraph) e.g. igh, ey, au.

With split digraphs, we draw a curved line to show that even though they are split they still represent one sound.



Sound Button Examples

Paul



haul



daub



launch



June



flute



Example Of The Check

Practice sheet: Real Words

beg

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at

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sum

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in

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Example Of The Check

Practice sheet: Pseudo Words

vap



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osk



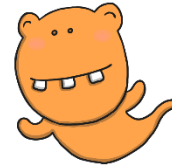
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Reporting To Parents

By the end of the Summer term all schools must report their child's results to parents. We report the phonics screening result in the end of year reports.

They will also confirm if the child has met the standard threshold.

Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.



How Are The Results Used?

Results from the check will be used by schools to analyse their own performance and for Ofsted to use in inspections.



How Can I Help My Child At Home?

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

The children are **very** familiar with phonicsplay. 'Picnic on pluto', 'dragons den' and 'buried treasure' are great games to practice real and nonsense words.

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com>

This has lots of resources (both interactive and printable) to help your child practice in preparation for the phonics screening.

Maybe you can use the grapheme cards or decodable word cards and see how many your child can read in two minutes?

Place different sounds or decodable words on the stairs, as they jump up and down can they say the sounds or words?

Using the decodable word cards, write them in chalk/paint/sand. Can you sound button then read the word?

We also have lots of games and activities you can complete with your child. If you would like some of these then please let us know!



How Can I Help My Child At Home?

- Encourage your child to sound out each word. Then use those to sound out the word.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each letter, e.g. /c/ in cat, or the letter group, e.g. /ng/ in sing. Next move your finger under the whole word as you say it.
- If the word is long (polysyllabic) then encourage your child to split the word in half. Read each half and then bring those parts together e.g. sandpit -> sand then pit. Blend together to create sandpit.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.