



# Phonics and Reading

## Key Terminology:

A **phoneme** is a sound in a word. (“How it sounds”)

A **grapheme** is a letter or sequence of letters that represent this sound (“How it looks”)

**Blending** – putting sounds together to make a word

**Segmenting** – breaking up words into the sounds they can hear (c-a-t)

**Digraph:** two letters that make one sound – sh (**ship**), ch (**chop**)

**Trigraph:** three letters that make one sound – igh (**night**) air (**chair**)

**CVC:** stands for ‘consonant, vowel, consonant’- CVC words include cat, dog, pat, rat, van

**Tricky words:** words that you cannot ‘sound out’, and need to learn by sight.

Link to a video demonstrating the full range of sounds:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

Useful resources:

**PHONICS PLAY** – We use this website to teach phonics every day. There are games which reinforce everything we are learning, as well as fantastic printable resources. Phonics Play has some free options available. Please go on to this website and enjoy some games with your child. Click on ‘Resources’ to find games suitable for the Phase your child is learning. Begin with Phase 1 and in a few weeks, your child might be ready to try a few Phase 2 games!

Other websites that you might find helpful are [www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk) (printable resources such as sound mats), and [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) (access to free books online).

The Start for Life online hub has lots of ideas for quick, easy activities your child will love and will help boost their learning for when they go to school.

[https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/baby/learning-to-talk/3-to-5-years/?WT.mc\\_ID=PR\\_Organic#anchor-tabs](https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/baby/learning-to-talk/3-to-5-years/?WT.mc_ID=PR_Organic#anchor-tabs)



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