

# Read Write Inc. Phonics

Information for parents

“Reading is the one ability, that once set in motion, has the ability to feed itself, grow exponentially and provide a basis from which possibilities are endless.”

Michael Morpurgo



Welcome to a brief taster of our whole school Phonics programme - Read Write Inc!

Our aim is for all children to leave Year 1 as confident, speedy readers.

By using this programme, all children will;

- Read fluently
- Write confidently
- Speak articulately



In Year 1 we will use all of these resources to help your children become speedy readers.

Today we are going to show you what a Wren's Nest Phonics lesson looks like, and we will also give you the opportunity to share books with your children.



## What is phonics?

In some languages learning phonics is easy because each phoneme has just one grapheme to represent it. The English language is a bit more complicated than this.

This is largely because England has been invaded so many times throughout its history. Each set of invaders brought new words and new sounds with them. As a result, English only has around 44 phonemes but there are around 120 graphemes (ways of writing down those 44 phonemes.)

There are only have 26 letters in the alphabet so some graphemes are made up from more than one letter. e.g. **ch th oo ay** (these are all digraphs - graphemes with two letters)

There are other graphemes that are trigraphs (made up of 3 letters) and even a few made from 4 letters. Another slightly sticky problem is that some graphemes can represent more than one phoneme. For example **ch** makes very different sounds in these three words: **chip**, **school**, **chef**.

The English language is a code and phonics teaches children how to crack the code.

Lets have a look at the simple speed sounds chart...



First, we will show your parents how to make the pure sound for each grapheme.

remember mtyt

Then, they will join us using the flash cards.

### Simple Speed Sounds chart

Consonants: stretchy

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
										nk

Consonants: bouncy

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
	k											

Vowels: bouncy

Vowels: stretchy

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	-----	----

Vowels: stretchy

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy
----	----	----	----	-----	----	----	----

Set  
1

Set  
2

This is Fred.

Fred can only talk in sounds...

He says "c\_a\_t." Not cat.

We call this Fred Talk.





Lets have a go at a few words...

shop

queen

high

cook

lay

flow

stool

remember mtyt



These are the complex sounds.

We only learn the complex sounds once the children are confident with Set 1 and 2.

### Complex Speed Sounds chart

Consonants: stretchy

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					e					
					ce					

Consonants: bouncy

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				ge							
	ch											

Vowels

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				ai	y	ie	oi
						ea	le	oo
						e	i	o

oo	oo	ar	er	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
ui			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw							
			ou							

Set  
3





Every day, we read and write the words that contain the sounds and graphemes learned so far, using lively and fun phonic storybooks.



Now, we are going to show you a typical Phonics lesson.

- Speedy Reading. These are the sounds you know really well. They are SSS1 (simple sounds)
- New Sound. We teach the new sound, showing the picture and the rhyme that goes with it.
- Fred Talk. Teacher 'Fred talks' some words with the new sound. Children Fred talk and then blend and say the word back to the teacher. Then we use sounds they have learnt previously to help with reading.  
*You will notice there are dots and dashes to help with Fred Talk.*
- Fred in the head. Children read words by blending in their head. Teacher asks for 'special friends' and children say the grapheme, then in their head they can build the word and say it when the teacher pushes it forwards.  
*You will see there are not dots and dashes for these words.*
- Alien Language. Use the sound learnt today and sounds we know well to read nonsense words using 'special friends' and Fred Talk.  
*There are dashes under the 'special friends' to help with Fred Talk.*

Once we have finished this part of the lesson, we move to the tables using 1...2...3...  
This helps us to move quickly and quietly around the classroom.  
We will demonstrate how easy this is to use at home too.

- Spelling. The teacher says a word using the sound learnt today e.g. sh Children have to count on their fingers how many sounds they hear (not how many letters) e.g. fish (3 sounds so 3 fingers). We pinch the sounds onto our fingers, then write the word, using our Fred Fingers to help.
- Checking. Each word is checked straight away. Underline your special friends. If you have written your f like mine, then give it a tick. If your i is like this then give it a tick and if you have the sh then tick it too. (3 ticks for 3 sounds).

sáw

yáwǎ

gréén

sǒrt

cláw

light



Now it's your turn.

There are some Ruth Miskin phonics books on your tables to share them with your child.

Look at the sound chart in the front of the book and use the lolly sticks to point at different graphemes before you read the book.

Read the **green** and **red** words together.

Go through the **Vocabulary Check** and discuss unusual words.

Look at the **Punctuation** you might see on each page.

Then you can read the **Introduction** and share the story together.

Once you have finished, you can turn to the back of the book and answer the **Questions**. Find the page in the book with the answer and then ask the question.

When you have done all that then you can play the **Speed Words** game on the back cover. If your child makes a mistake, tell them the correct word then go back to the start of the line and read them again. The aim is to be speedy and accurate.



How can you help at home?

Read favourite stories over and over again.

Listen to your children reading their take home storybooks.

Have fun with Fred Talk.

*“What a tidy r-oo-m!”*

*“Where’s your c-oa-t?”*

*“Time for b-e-d!”*



Only Fred Talk the last word in a sentence or it gets very silly!



What else?



Ruth Miskin Training parents' page -  
trainer top tips and book recommendations.



Sign up to the Ruth Miskin Training newsletter on the  
website homepage.

[www.ruthmiskintraining.com/parents](http://www.ruthmiskintraining.com/parents)

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