

# Phonics Information Meeting





## Aims of today:

- To give an overview of phonics teaching and the rationale behind it.

- To provide information about how the program is taught in school.

- To support you as parents and carers in re-enforcing the program at home.

## The official guidance in England:

Teachers should use Systematic Synthetic Phonics programmes and 'cumulative' decodable reading books for beginners.

Why is it 'synthetic' phonics?

Synthesising = sounding out and blending the sounds to read the unknown words (aloud or silently!)

On the count of three, read these words aloud...

Calceolaria integrifolia

# Our school uses the Oxford Reading Tree Floppy's Phonics programme

By Oxford University Press and Debbie Hepplewhite





# The synthetic phonics teaching principles work for all!

- ✓ The 'alphabetic code' is taught systematically
- and incidentally when required

✓ Same alphabetic code and phonics skills need to be taught no matter how different the children may be - some may need extra practice!

✓ Children all succeed - to talk, to read, to spell, to write

Graphemes or spelling alternatives - across the rows

#### Sounds

- down the left columns as there are fewer sounds than graphemes



#### Decoding

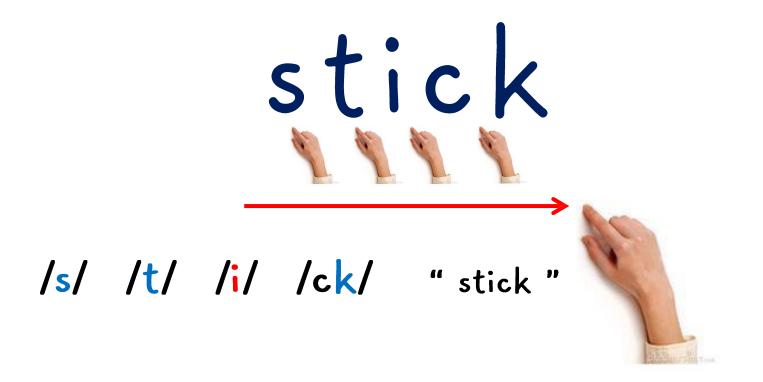
1. Study the printed word from left to right to recognise any 'letter groups'

2. Finger-track under each grapheme (letter or letter group) from left to right whilst saying each sound

3. Run your finger right under the whole printed word, from left to right, when you say the whole word

### Decoding

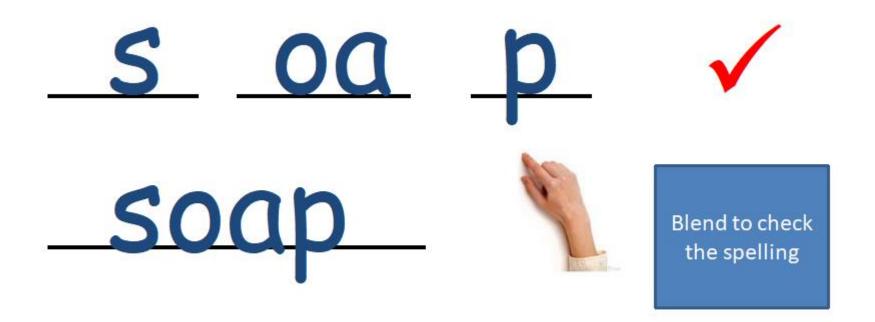
Study the printed word first - looking for letter groups!



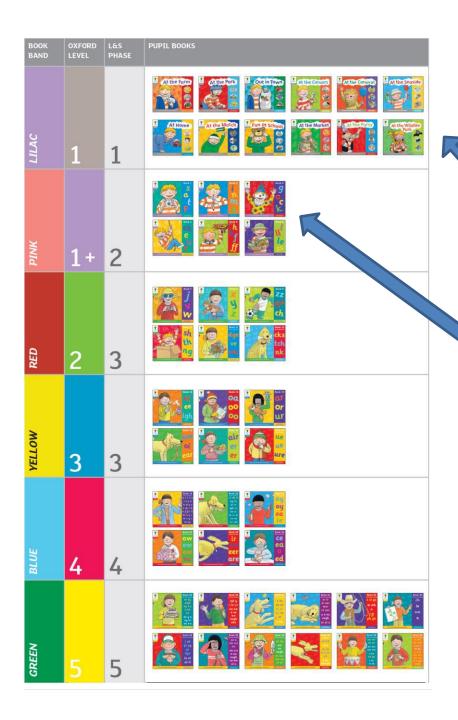
#### Spelling routine

- Face the same way as your child
- Left hand, palm facing make sure your child sees your hand 'on the left'
- Say the word to be spelt, very slowly the individual sounds will 'pop out'
- Tally the sounds onto thumb and fingers
- · Repeat each sound separately and clearly
- Then count how many sounds

### Sound dashes / writing lines



Check letter formation too!



#### 48 Sounds Books

6 level 1 'cloud books' not interactive

When letters and sounds are introduced, the books are numbered Book 1,

Book 2, Book 3

(36 numbered books)

#### Reading books

Reception and Year 1 Children will bring home a phonics-based reading book each week which will be closely aligned with the sounds they have been taught. They should read this book many times over the week until they are fluent. Reception children may not bring a book with text until later in the term - don't worry!

Children who are becoming increasingly more confident readers will be given books that are still aligned with their phonic ability but may also provide additional challenge and scope for comprehension and vocabulary enrichment

We will use a bookmark system in school to signpost parents and carers to the level of support we anticipate your child may need with the book they have brought home.

Please sign and comment your child's reading record at least 3 x a week.

How the adult supports the learner to read is very important...

1. Tell the learner the code:

str<u>aigh</u>t



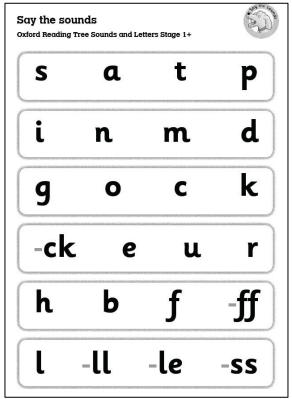
In this word, these letters are code for /ai/.

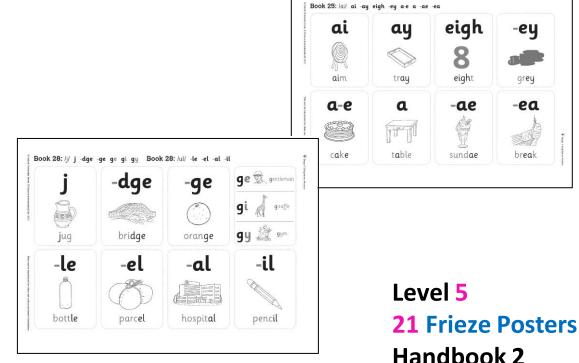
2. Alternatively, model the sounding out and blending of the word to the learner.

3. Or simply tell the learner the words which are proving too difficult.

#### Photocopiable Posters

All children will have a copy of this in their book bags.





-ey

-ea

break

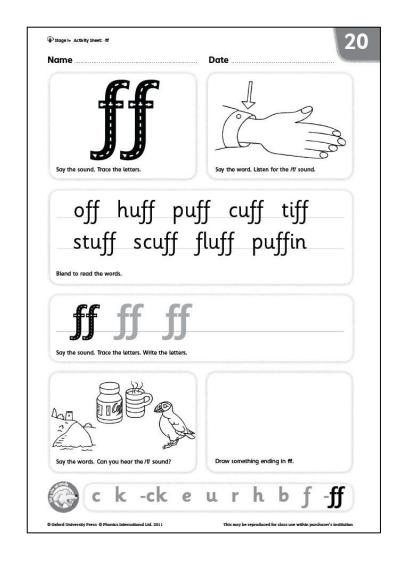
Levels 1+ to 4

8 Say the Sounds Posters (from print-to-sound and sound-to-print) Handbooks 1 & 2

#### Essential MULTI-SKILLS Activity Sheets

Individual practice of the sub-skills and core skills for reading, spelling and handwriting at word level

Children are fully trained in the routines - then they can work at their own speed independently.



The school's bookbag routine

Parents can support the phonics work that takes place in school.



Each week staff will share on Seesaw the sounds of the week and an activity to complete. Please 'take an interest' and repeat activities at home.

At the end of each half term your child will bring home their phonics workbook to consolidate what they have learned.

#### 'Useful or Tricky Words'

We now call 'tricky' words as 'useful' words which are introduced steadily throughout systematic synthetic phonics programmes.

It is better to tell the learner a really challenging word, than to tell the learner to 'guess' the word.

And as always the adult should discuss the content of the book with the child!

#### PLEASE:

Listen to your child read to you and support as needed (AND talk a lot about the story)

Read books aloud to your child. They will all bring home a library book each week.

Share the reading of books with your child

Continue to hear your child read aloud even when he or she can read independently

Chatter about everything!

Repeat the phonics routines with the Floppy's Phonics resources.

Practise spelling and writing words containing sounds too.

## Any questions?

Please do ask if you have any worries or concerns regarding your child's progress.