All about Phonics…

Please note:
Due to a clash of dates (with our yoga) we are rearranging next week's 'Stay and Play' to
Friday 12th October 9-10am

Cookridge Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

What is phonics?

- There are many different teaching strategies and programs to teach phonics – as a school we have dipped into the best of each and created our own (read, write, inc; letters and sounds; jolly phonics, rigby rocket)
- Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. Children are taught to how to:
- Recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes; these are called phonemes (eg – s, a, t)
- Identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make –such as ‘sh’ or ‘oo’; these are called digraphs (two letter sounds) and trigraphs eg ‘igh’ (three letter sounds).
- Blend these sounds together to make the right word.
- Children are taught ‘common exception words’ alongside this, we call these ‘tricky words’ in Reception – these are words that can not be phonetically read and need to be learnt by sight.

Fred Talk for reading

- Children can then use the sounds they have learnt to read new words by blending the sounds together.

- It is really important that the children say the ‘pure sounds’. When saying the phonemes (sounds of the letters) with your children do not add ‘uh’ to the end of each one!

- d–o–g

- You’re child will be sent each sound home every Friday, that we will be learning the following week. They will show, the letter formation, the action and the picture to help us remember it.

Fred Talk for reading

- This is Fred, he is a frog that only speaks in sounds.
- He helps children sound out words so that they can read and spell.
- We use ‘fred fingers’ to identify the sounds

  in a word so we can blend them together.

d o g

Fred talk for reading (blending)

mat

man

sam

tim

pam

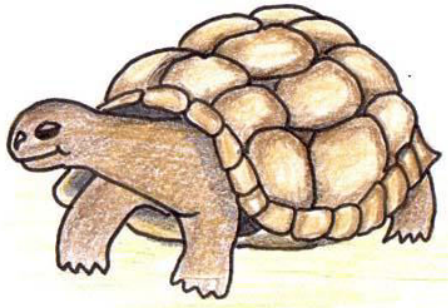
m a t

Learning to blend the sounds together to read.

Fred talk for reading (blending)

- Almost all children who have good teaching of phonics will learn the skills they need to tackle new words. They can then go on to read any kind of text fluently and confidently, and to read for enjoyment.

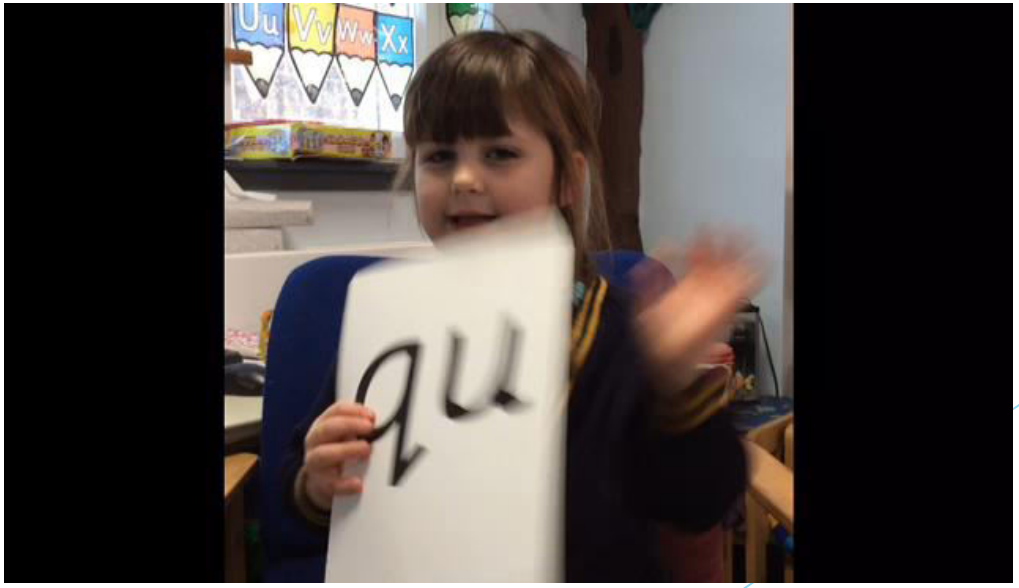
- t-or-t-oi-se



Mnemonics!!

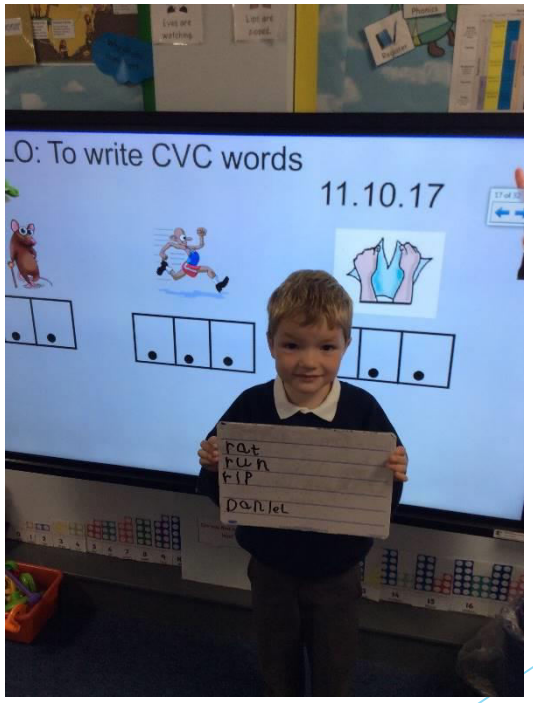
Each letter has a corresponding action and picture to go with it. This helps your child to remember the phonemes (sounds) better. It is multi-sensory.

These will be in your child's book bag – please remove and practise at home. These do not need to be returned to school.

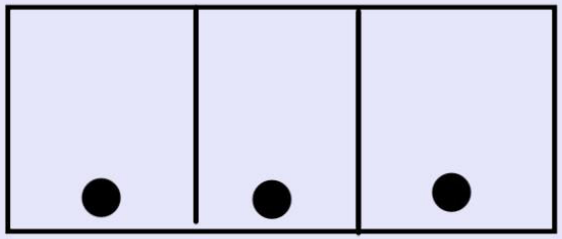


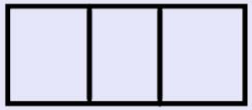
Fred talk for writing

- We apply our phonic knowledge to help us write words.
- We encourage the children to use ‘Fred fingers’ to segment the sounds in the words.
- The children would then write these sounds.



Fred talk for writing (segmenting)





Jargon time!

What is a phoneme?

What is a grapheme?

What is segmenting and blending?

Handwriting

- Phonics teaching is closely linked to handwriting.
- There is a rhyme to match each letter (grapheme).
- Stop your child and remind them if they are forming a letter wrong

Helping your child.

- Phonics work best when children are given plenty of encouragement and learn to enjoy reading and books. Parents play a very important part in helping with this.
- With all books, encourage your child to ‘sound out’ unfamiliar words and then blend them together from left to right. Once your child has read an unfamiliar word talk about what it means and help your child to follow the story. Give them lots of praise for using their phonic skills.
- Try to make time to read with your child every day. Five minutes a day is better than half an hour a week. Grandparents and older brothers and sisters can help too.
- Encourage your child to blend the sounds all through a word.

Helping your child.

Practise talking like Fred with your child (using the pure sounds).

“Time for b e d.”

“Get your c oa t.”

“Eat your l u n ch.”

Helping your child.

- Word games like ‘I spy’ can also be an enjoyable way of teaching children about sounds and letters. You can also encourage your child to read words from your shopping list or road signs to practise their phonics.
- We use the bookbags to send home reading books and reading record books for us to communicate with you about what your child has read. Please write in these every time your child has read to you.
- Once your child has learnt their letter sounds and has shown that they can blend (independently) they will be given a set of words to learn (Green and red sheet). The Green words can be blended – the red words are tricky and must be learnt by sight. These words correspond with the reading scheme – once your child has learnt their words – they will move onto that colour reading book.

What did you say?!

I’m gonner avter av t wiv u!

wiv,,wif, wib

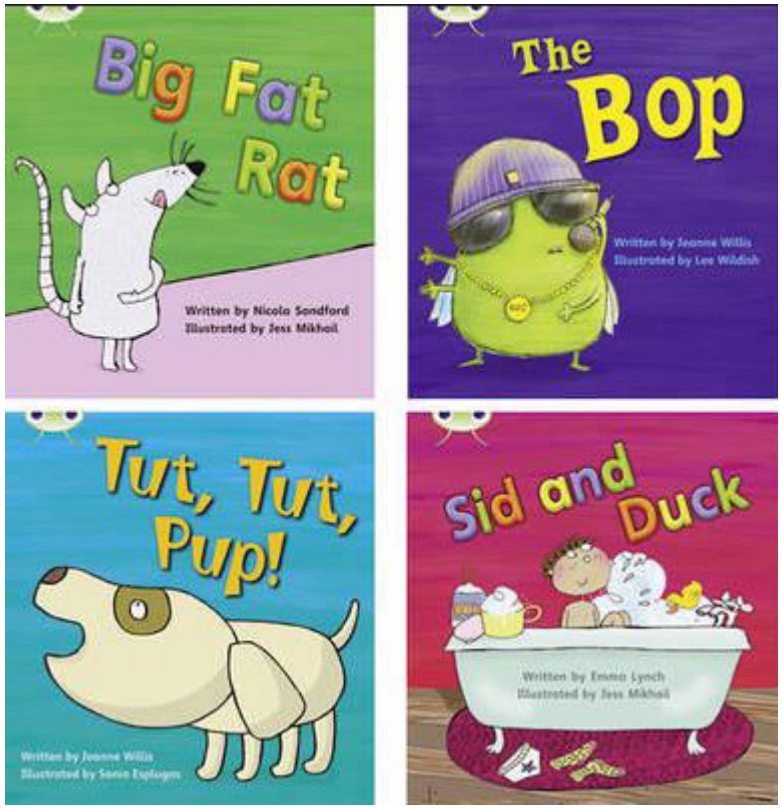
avter

Children spell as they speak. We encourage children to write the sounds they say therefore they must used the correct sounds. If you notice your child saying something incorrectly – please correct and model the right way to speak.

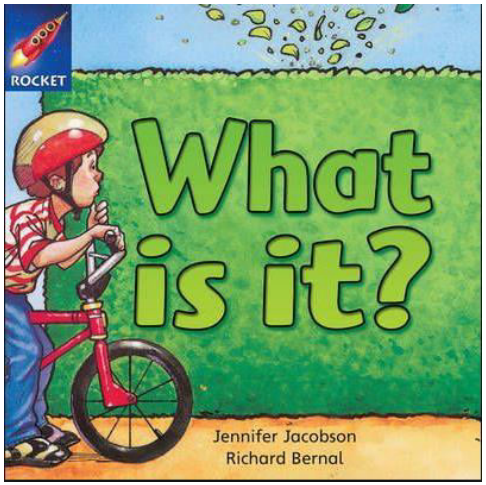
The reading scheme

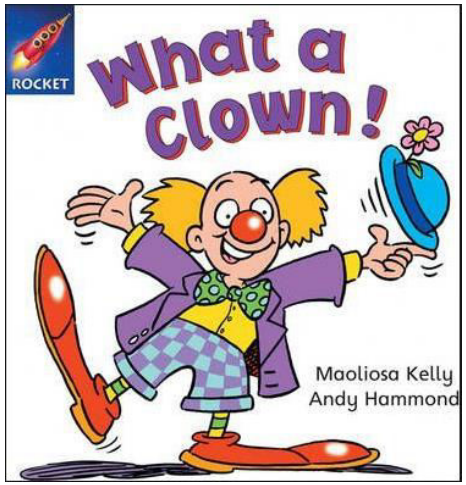
‘Conversation books’

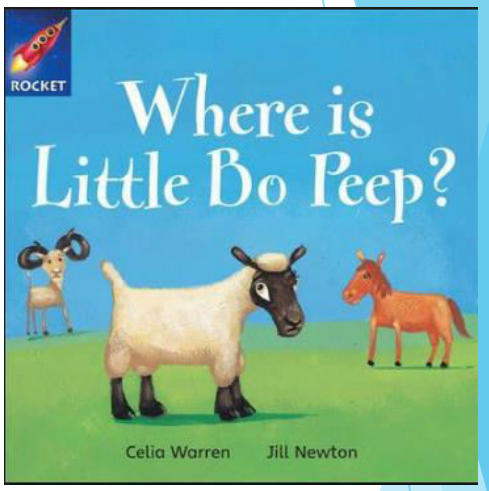
Phonic books:



Rigby rocket reading scheme -







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Tapestry

- Tapestry is an online learning journal for your child.
- The journal will include observations of your child in school. These observation's are in note form and often include a picture.
- If you have provided school with permission and given us an email – you should get an email shortly to set up your account.
- You can upload your own observation's of what your children are doing and share these with us too ☺
- The observations will be updated as regularly as possible.

Any questions?

Thankyou very much for coming tonight.

There will be another phonics evening in January to explain the next stage of your child's learning (digraphs and trigraphs).