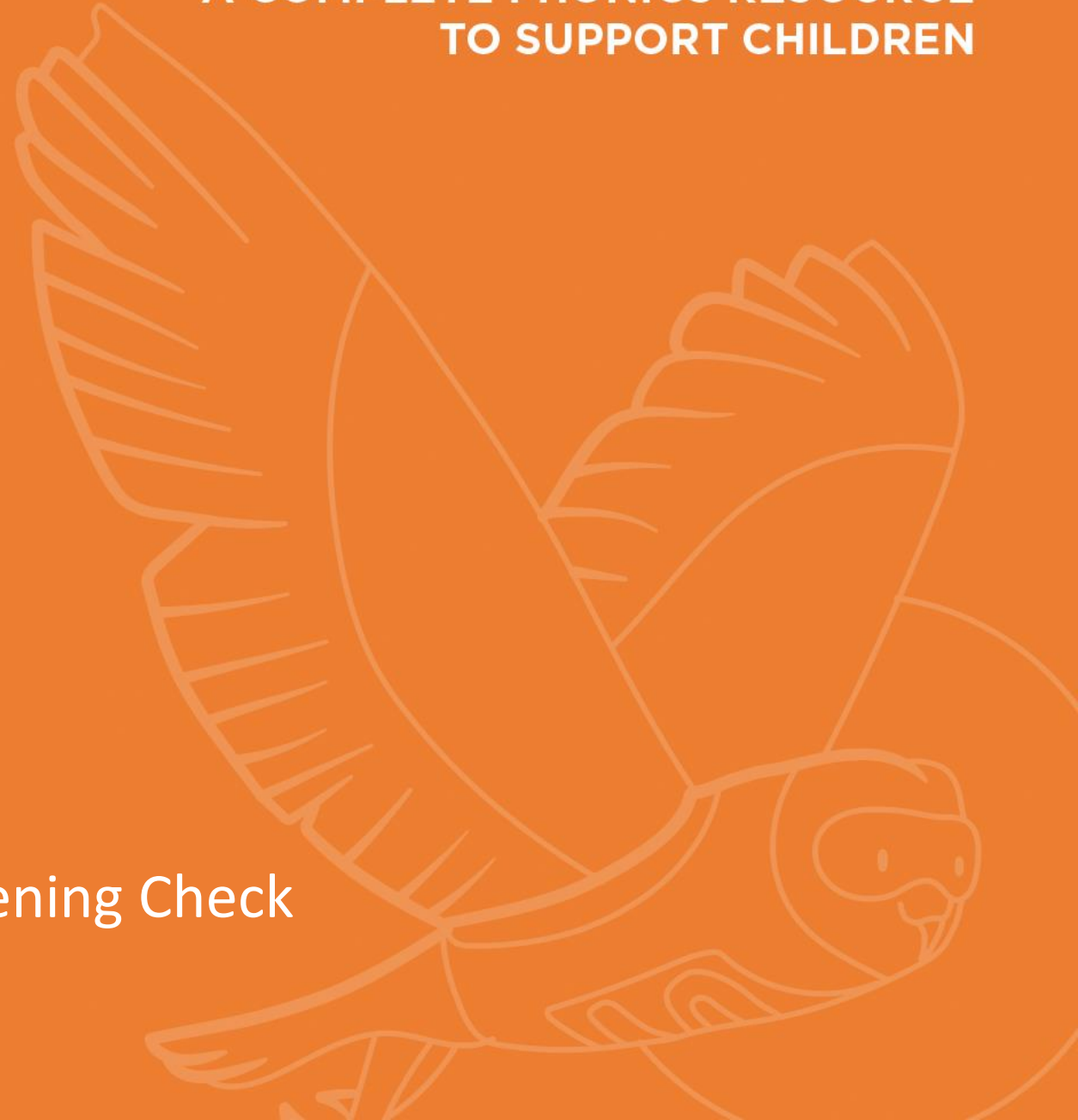




**A COMPLETE PHONICS RESOURCE  
TO SUPPORT CHILDREN**

# **Teach reading: change lives**

**Parent workshop: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check**



“

**A love of reading is the biggest indicator  
of future academic success.**

OECD (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)

”

# Phonics

# Terminology



## Phoneme

The smallest unit of sound that can be identified in words

## Grapheme

A letter or group of letters used to represent a phoneme

## Digraph

Two letters making one sound

## Trigraph

Three letters making one sound

## Split vowel digraph

A digraph representing a vowel sound where its two letters are split by an intervening consonant

## Blend

To combine individual phonemes into a whole word, working from left to right

## Segment

To identify each of the individual phonemes in a word, working from left to right

# The progression



## Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised 2021: Programme progression

### Reception and Year 1 overviews

This programme overview shows the progression of GPCs and tricky words that we teach term-by-term. The progression has been organised so that children are taught from the simple to more complex GPCs, as well as taking into account the frequency of their occurrence in the most commonly encountered words. All the graphemes taught are practised in words, sentences, and later on, in fully decodable books. Children review and revise GPCs and words, daily, weekly and across terms and years, in order to move this knowledge into their long term memory.

Children need to learn to read as quickly as reasonably possible, so they can move from learning to read, to reading to learn, giving them access to the treasure house of reading. Our expectations of progression are aspirational yet achievable if schools maintain pace, practice and participation by all children. Children who are not keeping-up with their peers should be given additional practice immediately through keep-up sessions.

#### Reception

Autumn 1 Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e u r h b f l	is I the

Autumn 2 Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>words with -s /s/ added at the end (hats sits)</li> <li>words ending -s /z/ (his) and with -s /z/ added at the end (bags)</li> </ul>	put* pull* full* as and has his her go no to into she push* he of we me be

\*The tricky words 'put', 'pull', 'full' and 'push' may not be tricky in some regional pronunciations; in which case, they should not be treated as such.

Spring 1 Phase 3 graphemes	New tricky words
ai ee igh oa oo oo ar or ur ow oi ear air er <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>words with double letters</li> <li>longer words</li> </ul>	was you they my by all are sure pure

Spring 2 Phase 3 graphemes	No new tricky words
Review Phase 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>longer words, including those with double letters</li> <li>words with -s /z/ in the middle</li> <li>words with -es /z/ at the end</li> <li>words with -s /s/ and /z/ at the end</li> </ul>	Review all taught so far

Summer 1 Phase 4	New tricky words
Short vowels with adjacent consonants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CVCC CCVC CCVCC CCCVC CCVCVC</li> <li>longer words and compound words</li> <li>words ending in suffixes: -ing, -ed /t/, -ed /id/ /ed/, -est</li> </ul>	said so have like some come love do were here little says there when what one out today

#### Year 1

Autumn 1	Review tricky words Phases 2–4
Review Phase 3 and 4 <b>Phase 5</b> /ai/ ay play /ow/ ou cloud /oi/ oy toy /ea/ ea each	Phases 2–4: the put* pull* full* push* to into I no go of he she we me be was you they all are my by sure pure said have like so do some come love were there little one when out what says here today

\*The tricky words 'put', 'pull', 'full' and 'push' may not be tricky in some regional pronunciations; in which case, they should not be treated as such.

Autumn 2 Phase 5 graphemes	New tricky words
/ur/ ir bird /igh/ ie pie /oo/ /yoo/ ue blue rescue /yoo/ u unicorn /oa/ o go /igh/ i tiger /ai/ a paper /ee/ e he /ai/ a-e shake /igh/ i-e time /oa/ o-e home /oo/ /yoo/ u-e rude cute /ee/ e-e these /oo/ /yoo/ ew chew new /ee/ ie shield /or/ aw claw	their people oh your Mr Mrs Ms ask* could would should our house mouse water want

\*The tricky word 'ask' may not be tricky in some regional pronunciations; in which case, it should not be treated as such.

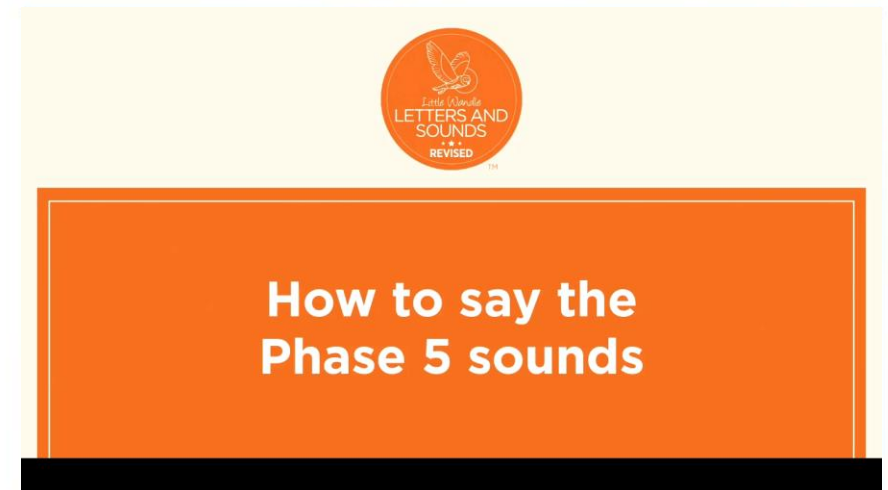
Spring 1 Phase 5 graphemes	New tricky words
/ee/ y funny /e/ ea head /w/ wh wheel /oa/ oe ou toe shoulder /igh/ y fly /oa/ ow snow	any many again who whole where two school call different thought through friend work

# What your child been taught so far

Your child has been taught most of Phase 5, they know:

- new graphemes for the Phase 2 and 3 sounds
- that the same grapheme can have alternative pronunciations.

The 'Grow the code' lessons support children with reading and spelling these alternative spellings.



**How we teach Phase 5**

# Reading words



Children will be able to:

- blend independently
- blend in their heads with increasing fluency and confidence
- start to distinguish between different phonemes/graphemes.





# Phonics Screening Check



DfE - Standards & Testing Agency Document



# More info...



Information for parents and carers

**Your child's reading journey  
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check**

Your child has now learned most of the Year 1 phonics in *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* and will soon be preparing for the nationally required Phonics Screening Check, which will take place in June.

**What is the Phonics Screening Check?**

- The Phonics Screening Check is a quick check of your child's decoding skills.
- Your child will be asked to read 40 words – 20 are real words, 20 are known as 'alien words' (made-up words).

**Why do the children read 'alien words'?**

- Reading alien words checks children's decoding skills and knowledge of graphemes in a fair way – it mirrors what the children have to do when they read a word that they have not read before.
- Your child will not have seen the alien words before. They will have to use their knowledge of letters and sounds to work out how to read them.

**How does the check work?**

- Your child will be asked to read 40 words independently.
- The check has been designed to not put your child under stress. It will be carried out by a member of staff who knows your child well.
- It should only take a few minutes to complete, but there is no time limit.

**Do I need to do anything to further support my child?**

- Continue to listen to your child read their phonics books and read to them daily.
- Your child's teacher will let you know if any additional practice is needed.
- Always ask if you need any further support!

**All for the love of reading**

- Teaching children the skills of reading will increase their will to read. Children who love reading, choose to read.
- Reading develops children's vocabulary, understanding of the world and empathy.
- A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success! To develop a love reading, children must have the skills to read, which is why we teach them using phonics.

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**What's in the Phonics screening check?**

All Phase 2 and 3 GPCs are tested.

**Phase 4: example words**

VCC	ant	green
CCVC	frog	house
CVC	best	spoil
CCVCC	clump	three
CCVC	scrub	screen
CCVCVC	strict	

**All phases: words ending in -s**

hats	keeps	crowds	spikes
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**All phases: two-syllable words**

panic	model	forest	portrait	blossom
label	saucers	replies	reaching	beehive

**Phase 5 GPCs: vowels**

/ai/	a-e	ay		
/ee/	e	ea	e-i	ie
/igh/	i	ie	ie	
/oa/	o	o-e	ou	ow
/oo/	u-e	ou	ow	oo
/yoi/	u	ue	ue	us
/ow/	ou			
/ai/	ee			
/oi/	oy			
/oi/	ou	ow		
/ai/	a			
/ai/	ou			
/oi/	u			

\*depending on accent

**Phase 5 GPCs: consonants**

/t/	/ch/	/ch/
/t/	/ph/	/wh/



Little Wandle Handout – What's included in the PSC

# This term we are preparing for the Phonics Screening Check







## What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- It is a quick check of your child's phonics knowledge.
- It is **not** designed to create any stress or anxiety for your child.
- It assesses decoding skills using phonics.
- It consists of 40 words (20 real words, 20 'alien words').

If children do not achieve the required score in Year 1, they will retake the screening at the end of Year 2. (The pass mark is usually 32). As a school, we will highlight how your child will be further supported in phonics.

Section 1

sut	
yad	
dop	
uct	

Page 3 of 24

Section 1

shop
yell
peel
check

Page 9 of 24

# How does the check work?

- Your child will sit with a member of staff that they know.
- They will be asked to read 40 words aloud.
- This takes just a few minutes to complete, but there is no time limit.
- If your child is struggling, the teacher will stop. They can be given short breaks too if they are finding it hard to sit and read all 40 words in one go.
- It has been carefully designed not to be stressful for your child.
- You will find out your child's results as part of their end of year report.



# What are 'alien words'?



**Why we teach alien words  
for Phonics Screening Check**

**A quick guide to alien words**

tabe



Yr1 Su1 wk1

# 'Alien words' recap



- The check will contain 20 'alien words'.
- The children will be familiar with alien words and will start to read them this term.
- Alien words assess children's decoding skills and are used in lessons for the purpose of preparing for the Phonics Screening Check **only**.
- Children cannot read these words by using their memory or known vocabulary, so they have to use their decoding skills. This is a fair way to assess their ability to decode.
- The Phonics Screening Check will be administered in June (Week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025).

# Supporting your child with phonics



Don't forget that there are plenty of resources on Little Wandle website (see below). These include videos of how to pronounce each sound and how children learn to 'blend'.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

## Useful videos



A quick guide to alien words



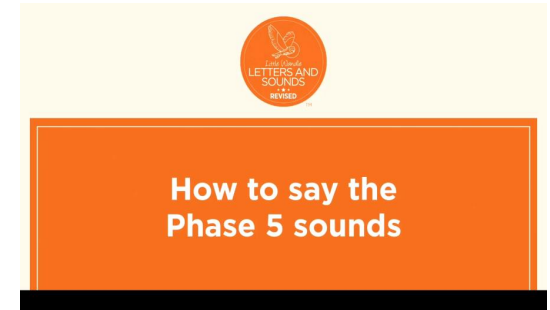
How we teach tricky words



How we teach blending



How we teach Phase 5



How to say the Phase 5 sounds



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 2



Phase 3 sounds taught in Reception Spring 1



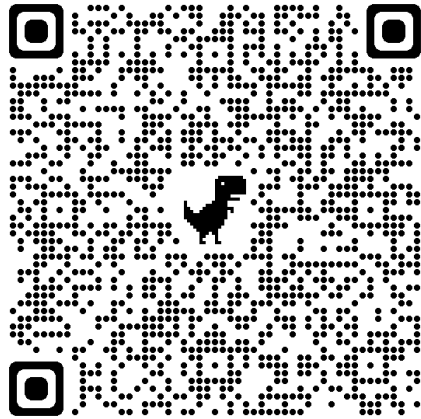
How to say Phase 5 sounds



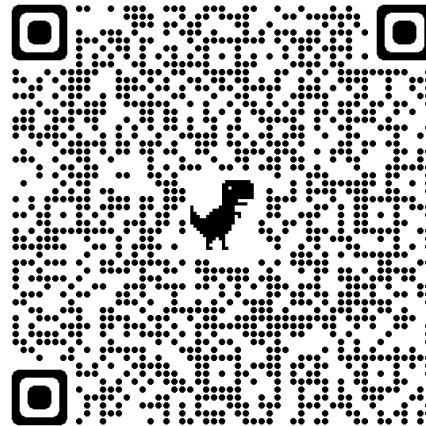
# Supporting your child with phonics



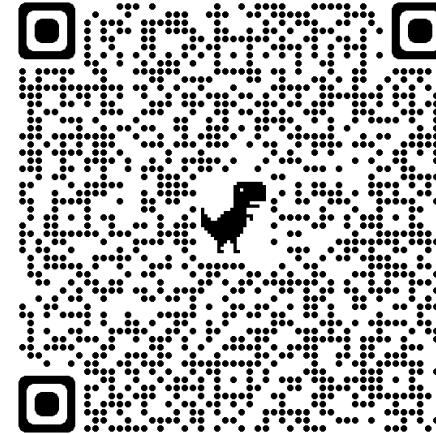
- Please scan the QR codes to view and download previous years' Phonics Screening Check resources!



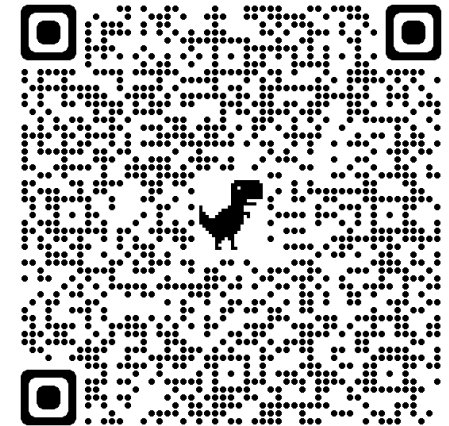
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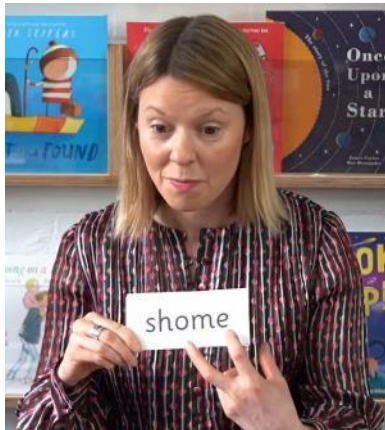


# Supporting your child with phonics



- Play fun and practical games where they are asked to read real and non-words.
- Share decodable books together and encourage them to segment and blend the words.

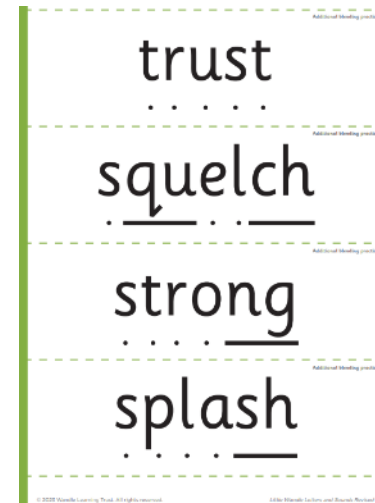
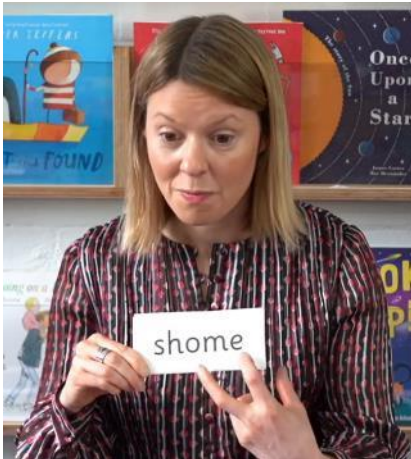
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>



# How we will support your child...



- If we think your child needs extra support in preparation for the Phonics Screening Check, we will carry out either 1:1 or small group work to try and plug these gaps
- We may send home resources that might be useful for you to practice with your child e.g. reading words with adjacent consonants.



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**Children are made readers  
on the laps of their parents.**

**— Emilie Buchwald**

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