

Reception Phonics and Reading meeting



"Reading gives us someplace
to go when we have to stay
where we are."

– Mason Cooley

Aims

- Importance of learning to read
- Overview of Phonics
- Monster Phonics programme
- How reading is taught at Woodstone
- How to help your child at home

Why is reading so important?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHm5yBgtU90>

Benefits of reading

- Enjoyment
- Accessing the wider curriculum
- Academic success
- Mental wellbeing
- Vocabulary development
- Essential life skill

Did You Know...?

The English language has:

26 letters



44 sounds

over 100 ways to spell those sounds



It is one of the most complex languages to learn to read and spell.

What Is Phonics?

Phonics is a method for teaching reading and writing.

Develops the ability to hear, recognise and use the sounds within words.

Children are also taught the correspondence between sounds and the graphemes (spelling patterns) that represent them.

Children will also be taught other skills, such as whole-word recognition ('tricky words'), book skills and a love and enjoyment of reading.

The Jargon – A Quick Guide

phoneme - Any one of the 44 sounds which make up words in the English language

grapheme – How a phoneme is written down. There can be more than one way to spell a phoneme. For example, the phoneme ‘ay’ is spelt differently in each of the words ‘way’, ‘make’, ‘fail’, ‘great’, sleigh and ‘lady’.

blending – Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it, e.g. ‘f – r – o – g, frog’

segmenting – Breaking a word into its constituent sounds in order to spell them, e.g. ‘frog, f – r – o – g’

Why Are Children Taught Phonics?

Phonics, taught in a structured way, is generally accepted to be the most effective way to teach reading and writing.

Children learn to hear and recognise sounds in words and spell them correctly.

This assists with their confidence, accuracy and fluency.

Phonics is not taught in isolation — children also need to learn other reading and comprehension skills alongside phonic knowledge.

Phase One

Phase 1 has seven aspects, with a focus on listening skills.

- 1: Environmental sounds
- 2: Instrumental sounds
- 3: Body percussion
- 4: Rhythm and rhyme
- 5: Alliteration
- 6: Voice sounds
- 7: Oral blending and segmenting

Phase Two - Reception

In Phase 2, children begin to learn some letter sounds and to match them to graphemes.

Children also begin to blend the sounds to make words. By the end of Phase 2, children will be able to read some 'vowel-consonant' (vc) and 'consonant-vowel-consonant' (cvc) words, e.g. up, in, cat, pin.

Children will also learn to read the 'tricky' words **the**, **to**, **go**, **I**, **no**, which cannot be read phonetically.

Phase Three - Reception

Children are taught another 25 graphemes.

Children are introduced to digraphs (two letters making one sound)

Children also continue to learn how to blend and segment CVC words using the new sounds, e.g. tail, sheet, night – note that these words still only have three sounds.

Children will then move on to blending and segmenting two-syllable words such as cooker, eating, broken.

Tricky words also continue to be taught.

Phase Four – Reception/Year One

By Phase 4, children are able to represent each of 42 phonemes with a grapheme. Children will be able to read CVC words and begin to segment them to spell them.

Phase 4 is consolidation of children's knowledge. Children also move on to blending and segmenting using adjacent consonants, e.g. st, sp, tr, br, spr, str in words such as string, blow, train.

Phonics teaching continues to be regular and structured and children play games to consolidate their learning.

Phase Five – Year One

Children will broaden their knowledge of graphemes and phonemes.

They will learn alternative ways of spelling the phonemes they have already learnt.

They will learn strategies to help them choose the correct grapheme for spelling.

Children will be reading with more and more fluency, no longer needing to ‘sound out’ most familiar words.

Phase Six and Beyond

Phase 6 is mainly taught as children progress through year 2 (age 6-7).

Children are becoming fluent readers and more accurate spellers. They learn more spelling patterns such as the use of prefixes and suffixes, contracted forms of words (e.g. can't, won't) and other words in common usage such as days of the week.

At this stage, children can read hundreds of words automatically. They are now reading for pleasure and reading to learn rather than learning to read.

They can decode words quickly and silently and only need to sound out longer or more unfamiliar words.

Phonics at Woodstone

Taught daily through the Monster Phonics programme

In each lesson, children will revisit prior learning, learn the new content of the lesson, practise this new sound or tricky word and apply it to read or write a sentence

Children are encouraged to use phonics when reading and spelling

Flashcards and tricky word cards sent home for children to practise sounds

Regular assessment in order to provide support

What is Monster Phonics?

Monster Phonics teaches children to read by enabling them to identify the individual graphemes (letter combinations) and blend the sounds (phonemes) together to read the word. It is a fun way to teach phonics, since it is multi-sensory. Sounds are categorised into ten colour groups, and each colour has a corresponding monster character. Monster Phonics is a highly advanced multisensory scheme. This creates interest and engagement from the children.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJsIpcXdI7Y>

How is reading taught?

- Daily Phonics session
- Guided reading session twice per week
- Shared reading
- Daily storytime
- Reading opportunities across the curriculum

Reading Books

- Monster Phonics book – changed weekly
- ‘Share at home’ book – changed as often as needed
- Library book – changed weekly

Helping Your Child at Home

Read, read, read!

Phonic flashcards and tricky word cards

Encourage your child to use a range of reading strategies

Give your child lots of praise

Monster Phonics parent pack

Monster Phonics app

Speech Sounds

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8a4I5Uzrbk>

Thank you for your time

Any questions?