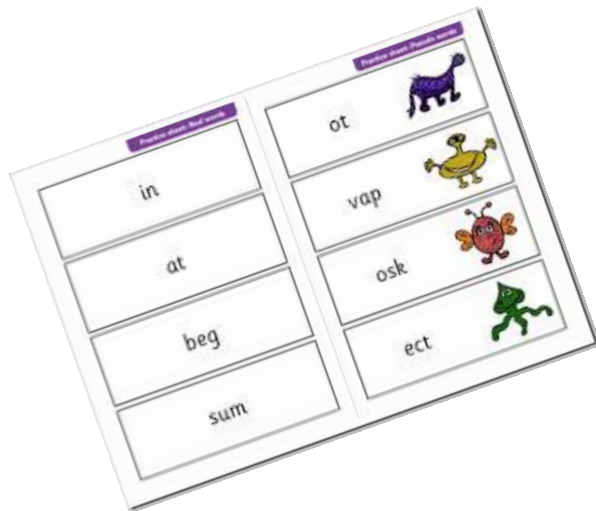




The Y1 Phonics Screening Check & Supporting Phonics At Home



What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully.



We teach the children how to:

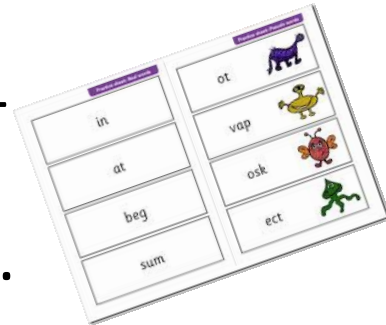
- **recognise the sounds** that each individual letter makes.
- identify the sounds that **different combinations of letters** make.
- Two letter sounds like 'sh' and 'oo' are called **digraphs** and 3 letter sounds like 'igh' are called **trigraphs**.
- **blend** these sounds together from left to right to **make a word**.

Children can then use this knowledge to '**de-code**' new words that they hear or see. This is the first important step in learning to read.



Why do we have the phonics screening check?

- This is a national standardised check for all Y1 children in the country.
- It is a measure for holding schools to account.
- The check is **designed for Y1 children** to assess their **phonics knowledge** and **skill in de-coding** words.
- Y2 children who did not reach the threshold in Y1 and those new to **Y2** will be **re-checked**.



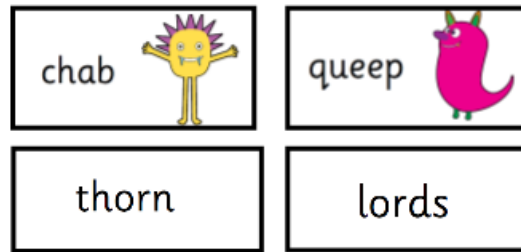
What will happen?

- The checks will take place in week of **Monday 8th June**.
- Each child will **read 40 words** with a familiar adult in a **quiet and relaxed setting**.
- The checks will take place with the Robin, Jacob, Sophie & the SLT as required.
- There is **no time limit**. The check could take a few minutes or as long as each child needs.
- It will not be a stressful experience! The children see it as a fun quiz.



What sort of words will there be?

- There will be **normal words** that the children should recognise.
- The check will contain **non-words** as well, such as:



- We tell the children that these are **alien names** who wanted to take part!
- Children use their knowledge of sounds to **read**, or **decode** and **blend** these words.

How will I know how my child does in the check?

- We will tell you by the **end of the Summer Term**.
- All Year 1 children **who do not reach** the standard this year will be **re-checked** when they are **in Y2** (June 2021).

Things to Help

- Home sound cards for the children to use with you at home.
- a **list of games and activities** you can play at home and on the way to and from school. These activities **should be fun** and easy for you to carry out – **no expensive resources** needed!
- Continue to **read daily** with your child, encouraging them to use their 'reading finger' to sound out (or 'de-code') and blend the words

