

Segmenting and Blending

After learning the individual sounds, the children learn to read these within words by developing a skill called blending .

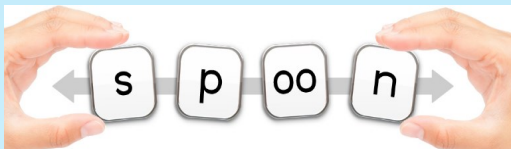
Blending is where the children recognise the sounds in the word and blend them together to read the whole word. To start with the children may only be expected to blend words with 3 phonemes e.g. p-l - ay, play or b-i-g, big. Over time, they will progress to read words with 4-5 phonemes

e.g. s-t-i-nk, stink,

s-t-r-i-de, stride.

Segmenting is where the children break down the word into its individual sounds. This helps them with their spelling.

Eg spoon = s-p-oo-n



Where can I find out more information?

On the Leasowes Website are links and resources linked to Little Wandle. This can be found in the Learning for Life—Curriculum—Rooted in Reading—Phonics page.

There are also lots of useful websites to help with the teaching of phonics and where you can find out more information. Here is a small selection:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/question/index/3>

lots of information and guidance for parents/carers

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ParentsMenu.htm>

a selection of interactive games for all phonic phases. Mostly simple games.

www.ictgames.com/literacy.html

a great selection of games that link well with games in Letters and Sounds.

Phonics at Leasowes





What is phonics?

At Leasowes, early reading is taught through the Little Wandle phonics programme. Each one of the 26 letters of the alphabet has its own sound. However, there are 44 sounds in total. These are supplemented by a mixture of digraphs (2 letter sounds) and trigraphs (3 letter sounds).

Jargon Buster!

What do the terms mean?

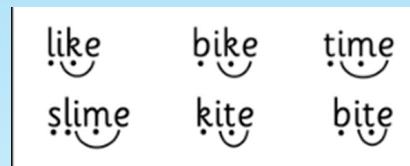
Phoneme - a sound as it is said

Grapheme - a sound that is written

Digraph- two letters that work together to make the same sound
e.g. oi

Trigraph - Three letters that work together to make the same sound
e.g. igh

Split digraph - Two letters that work together to make the same sound, separated by another letter
Alien/nonsense word – A made up word using the grapheme which the child has learnt



clisk



thrand



What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Towards the end of Year 1, all children in England must take a compulsory phonics assessment called the Phonics Screening Check. It is used to assess a child's phonic decoding skills. To pass, a student must correctly read around 32/40 words correctly. However, the pass mark does alter each year. The 40 words in the check are split into sections progressing from simple word structures to trickier words with five or six letters. The check contains both real words and alien/nonsense words. The aim of the check isn't to test how many words a child can read, but to ensure children have the phonics skills they need to learn new words in the future.

Who will administer the Phonics Screening Check?

The check will be carried out by a member of staff at Leasowes who the child is familiar with. This is usually Mrs Bettany. The check will be carried out in a friendly manner so the children will be as comfortable and as confident as possible. The children love the opportunity to 'show off' to Mrs Bettany all that they know in Phonics and they show a lot of pride in this.