



Linking Letters and Sounds

SLCF Vision: To be a community of confident, creative learners thriving together in a rich, inclusive environment that raises the aspirations of each unique child

Letters and Sounds is broken down into six phases which are predominantly taught from Reception (Nursery at LC) to Year 2. At SLCF we have five discrete phonic sessions a week and each individual child is taught and assessed at the appropriate phase for them. Interventions are put in place to support children who need it.

Phonics is:

Knowledge of the alphabetic code

(26 letters, 44 phonemes, 140 different letter combinations)

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Understanding of the skills of segmenting and blending

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Phase 6
7 Aspects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental sounds • Instrumental sounds • Body percussion • Rhythm and rhyme • Alliteration • Voice sounds • Oral blending and segmenting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 letters taught and the sound for each one and the 4 digraphs, ck, ff, ll, ss • Blending and segmenting to begin • Tricky words introduced and high frequency words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 more graphemes taught including seven letters, j, v, w, x, y, z, qu • Letter names introduced • Blending and segmenting CVC words • Reading and spelling simple 2 syllable words/ captions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new grapheme-phoneme correspondences • Blending and segmenting words with adjacent consonants • Further tricky words and high frequency words introduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces more graphemes for the ones previously taught in Phases 2 and 3 • Introduces alternative ways of pronouncing graphemes taught in phases 2 and 3 • Blending and segmenting • Further tricky words and high frequency words introduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing fluency and accuracy in blending and sounding out • Teaching spellings – past tense, adding suffixes, spelling long words, doubling letter and so on • Learning and practising a range of spellings • Application of a range of spellings

Phase 1 - This phase is intended to develop children's listening, vocabulary and speaking skills.

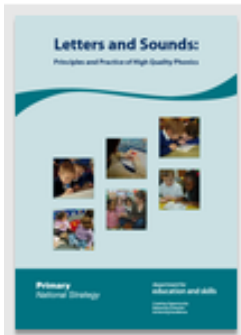
The ways in which adults interact and talk with children are critical to developing children's speaking and listening. This phase is essential to develop the listening and attention of the children before they begin Phase 2 in Reception.

In Phase 1 phonics, children learn about:

- **Environmental sounds** - sounds we hear all around us every day.
- **Instrumental sounds** - musical instrument sounds
- **Voice sounds** - sounds made using the voice
- **Body percussion** - sounds made using the body e.g. clapping and stamping)
- **Rhythm and rhyme** - repetitive phrases in stories, rhyming pairs (cat/hat) and rhyming strings (dog/log/bog/fog/hog)
- **Alliteration** - Sounds which all begin with same sound - bus/book/bat/begin/banana (I spy is a great game to support this)
- **Oral segmenting and blending** - Hearing a series of spoken sounds and merging them together to make a spoken word - **no text is used**
For example, when you call out 'b-u-s', the children say 'bus'
This skill is usually taught before blending and reading printed words

Activities to help with Phase 1 phonics include **'listening' walks, playing and identifying instruments, action songs, learning rhymes and playing games like I Spy.**

During the summer, it would be fantastic if you could play some of these simple listening games with your children to ensure they are ready to start the next phase of their letters and sounds journey.



This link takes you to the Letters and Sounds document we follow in school. It has lots of fantastic activity ideas for Phase 1 you could try.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190599/Letters_and_Sounds_-_DFES-00281-2007.pdf

Here are some other useful websites with some interactive games the children might enjoy:

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/list/phonics-games-phase-1>

<https://epicphonics.com/games/phase/1>

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-1-games.html>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1>