



Building the Foundations in Reception

Parent information meeting

Monday 14th September 2026





Hedgehog Class Headlines

Our Forest School day is Thursday

Your child needs:

Forest School

- Black leggings or joggers
- Red T-shirt
- Red hoodie/jumper
- Waterproof trousers
- Waterproof jacket
- Wellington boots
- Layers for underneath in winter





What is Foundational Knowledge?



Today we are going to focus on Phonics and Early Reading.



We love Reading!



- Reading for pleasure
- Finding out information
- Reading about the world around them
- Understanding forms and official documents
- Accessing learning





What is Phonics?

- Link between the words we say and the letters that represent each sound.



- Grapheme – the written letter or groups of letters

- Phoneme – the sounds that the grapheme makes.



Digraphs

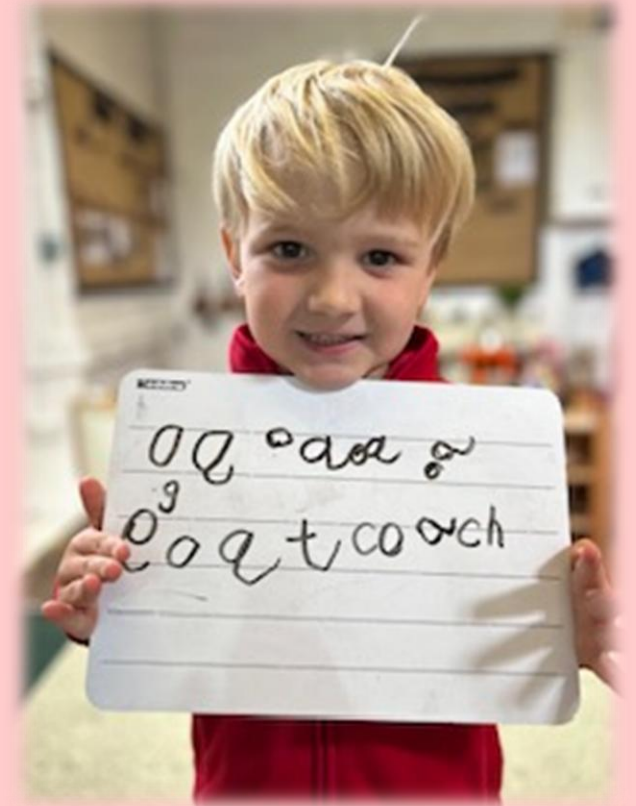
Two letters that make one sound
'ch', 'oa', 'ng'

chip goat sing

Trigraphs

Three letters that make one sound

hear fair night

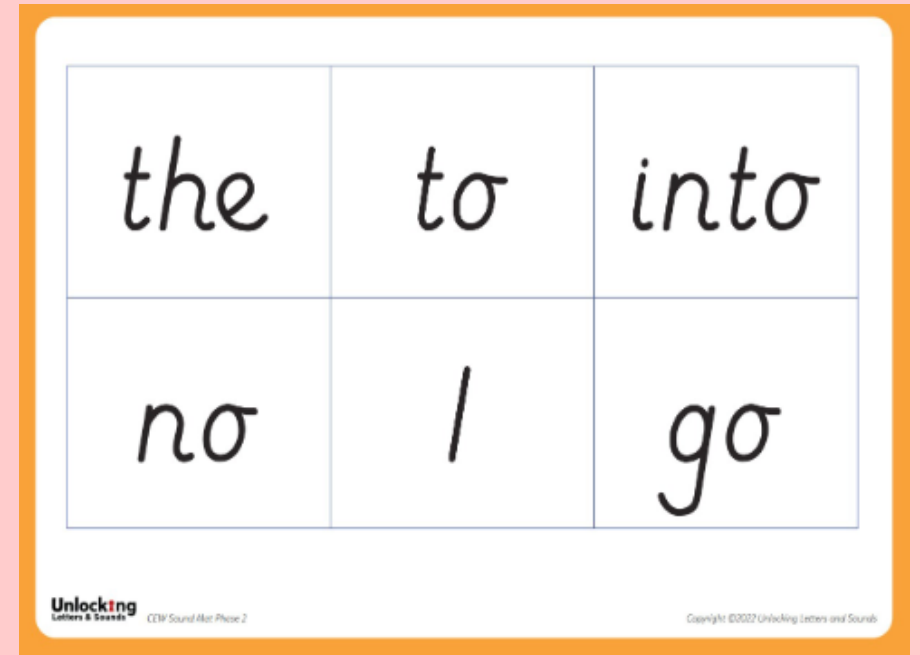




Common Exception Words

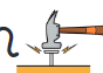
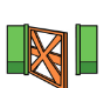
Words that cannot be sounded out.

Children need to learn to read these by sight/from memory.





Phase 2

Ss 	Aa 	Tt 	Pp 	li 	Nn 
Mm 	Dd 	Gg 	Oo 	Cc 	Kk 
ck 	Ee 	Uu 	Rr 	Hh 	Bb 
Ff 	ff 	Ll 	ll 	ss 	

phonemes

<i>the</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>into</i>
<i>no</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>go</i>

Common exception words



Phase 3

Jj 	Vv 	Ww 	Xx 	Yy 	Zz 
zz 	qu 	ch 	sh 	th 	th 
ng 	ai 	ee 	igh 	oa 	oo 
oo 	ar 	or 	ur 	ow 	oi 
ear 	air 	ure 	er 		

phonemes

me	we	be	he
she	was	you	they
all	are	my	her

Common exception words



Blending to read

Pushing sounds together to read a word:

f-ee-t blending to make 'feet'



Segmenting to write

Breaking up the sounds to write a word:

rain becomes r-ai-n





Phonics *pure sounds*

‘t’ rather than ‘tu’
‘d’ rather than ‘du’
‘p’ rather than ‘pu’
‘mm’ rather than ‘mu’



Supports blending ‘t-o-p’
rather than ‘tu-o-pu’



Books



- Wordless books
- Children will be given books containing words when they can blend – this will be different for every child
- Books precisely match children's phonics attainment



Reading at school

- Daily phonics lessons following our Unlocking Letters and Sounds scheme
- Children reading 1-1 to school adults
- Buddy reading
- 1 phonetically decodable book and one sharing book sent home weekly





Reading at Home

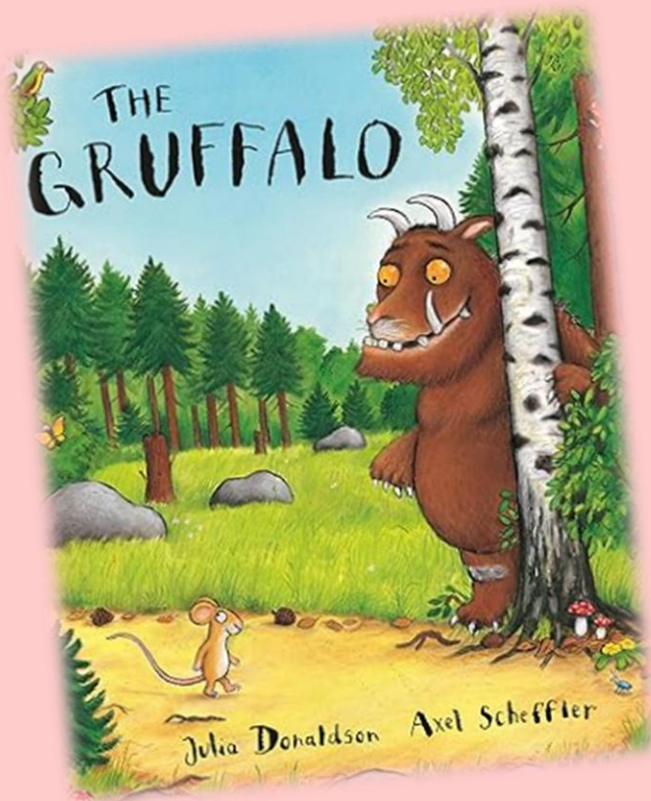


- 5 – 10 minutes
- Choose a time that works for you
- Be positive and celebrate successes
- Encourage them to point to the graphemes
- Encourage them to say the sounds and blend them together
- Be patient and let them try and work it out
- Read common exception words by sight





Reading at Home



- Continue to read to your child
- Model how to read a book – left to right, turning pages
- Ask questions about what has happened and characters' feelings
- Support vocabulary
- Predict what will happen next
- Make connections
- Model your love of reading!