

Bug Club Phonics

Developing Early Reading
and beyond



**Bug Club
Phonics**

The future of reading

Loved
by over a million
children in the UK.



Phonics

What is Bug Club?

- A reading programme that the school will use to help teach your child to read
- It has carefully graded reading books and eBooks
- Your child can take home the books as well as accessing eBooks via a personalised website



Phonics

What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write. It helps children hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language.

Synthetic phonics

The most widely used approach associated with the teaching of reading in which phonemes (sounds) associated with particular graphemes (letters) are pronounced in isolation and blended together (synthesised). For example, children are taught to take a single-syllable word such as cat apart into its three letters, pronounce a phoneme for each letter in turn /c,a,t/, and blend the phonemes together to form a word.

What is phonics?

Phonics provides children with the tools to learn to read and develop a love of books and reading.

Through learning to decode, recognise tricky words and high frequency words by sight, leads to greater fluency.

Practising these skills at home and at school leads to greater confidence and success. It also leads to greater retention of the sounds and words.

What is
phonics?

Let's watch this Bug Club video to give you a little bit more information.

Importance of Early Reading

Five minutes a day can make so much difference.

We recommend a minimum of three reads per week.

1st read is needed to decode

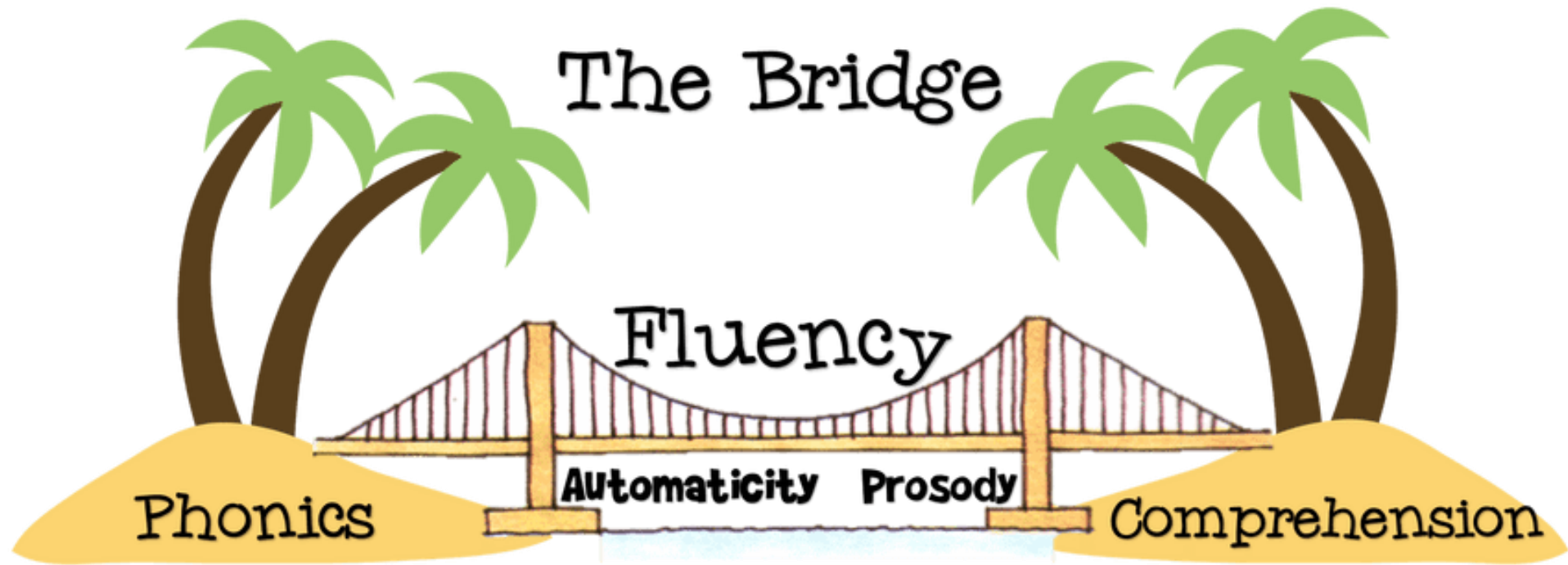
2nd read less decoding and show more understanding of what they are reading

3rd read fluent and using expression, intonation

What is
fluency?

Reading Fluency

Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy and proper expression and prosody. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to read fluently whether they are reading aloud or silently. When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately. Their reading is smooth and has expression.



What is fluency?

Phonics

Top Tip!

Spot the tricky bit- look for digraphs/trigraphs/quadgraphs

Sound out the word

Read the word

Phonic Interventions

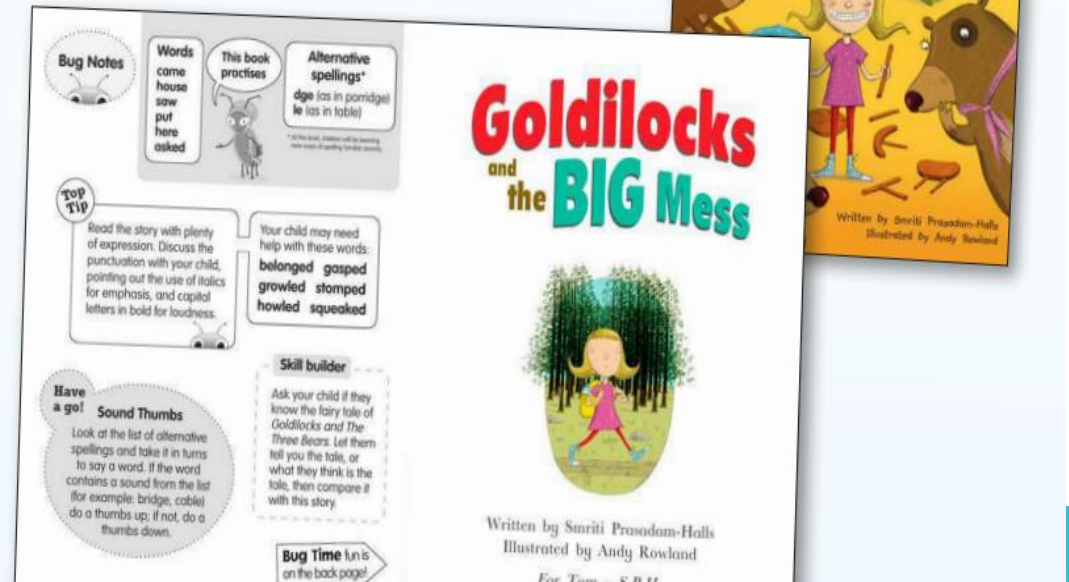
We are quick to notice gaps in children's phonic learning and provide extra practice for children who need to catch up. This happens through short interventions working on the sounds that the children do not know or sounds that they cannot always apply when reading and writing. All staff at school attend a weekly phonics meeting to ensure consistency in our approach across the school.

It is about retaining the sounds- quick recall of flashcards at a good pace. Reading words with a focus sound- spotting the digraph or trigraph within the words and then reading the word. Revisiting sounds already covered. It builds confidence and helps the children to overlearn sounds. The children also have a chance to apply the focus sound when reading unfamiliar, alien words.

Using the books

Notes for parents on the inside front covers

- Practise high-frequency words and sounds that appear in the book with your child
- Don't worry if your child struggles on the tricky words
- You can use the games and questions for discussion with your child



Phonics

Using the books

Children's activities on inside back covers

- Play the games to encourage your child to read back through the book
- There are ideas for making things and drawing things



"It's not," I agreed. "Not if you follow the guide."

Tara looked confused.

"I'll show you later," I said. "It's not quite finished yet."

I would show her, but right now Mum had the frying pan out and my stomach was telling me that it had missed breakfast. One fried egg sandwich later, I went upstairs to add my final tip to my guide before showing it to Tara.

HUG YOUR STEPSISTER **LOTS**
HUGS ARE A THOUSAND TIMES BETTER
THAN WORDS — UNLESS YOU'VE BROKEN
HER PHONE.



56

Find it!

What happened when Lily bit into a cherry tomato? Have you ever had a snack attack?

Share it!

Freaky pictures!

Look at the illustrations in the book. Many of these are funny drawings of Lily's thoughts during a day with her family, e.g. Mum's eyes bulging like a tree frog, or the fireworks of anger fizzing around Tara.

Write about a day when lots of things happened to you and your family or friends. Add drawings to show how you were feeling or what you were thinking at the time. Make your drawings as weird, funny or as freaky as you like, and then share them with someone who was there on the day. Do they recognise some of the events in your story?



Want to know more?

How many other books can you find that include a diary written by one of the characters?

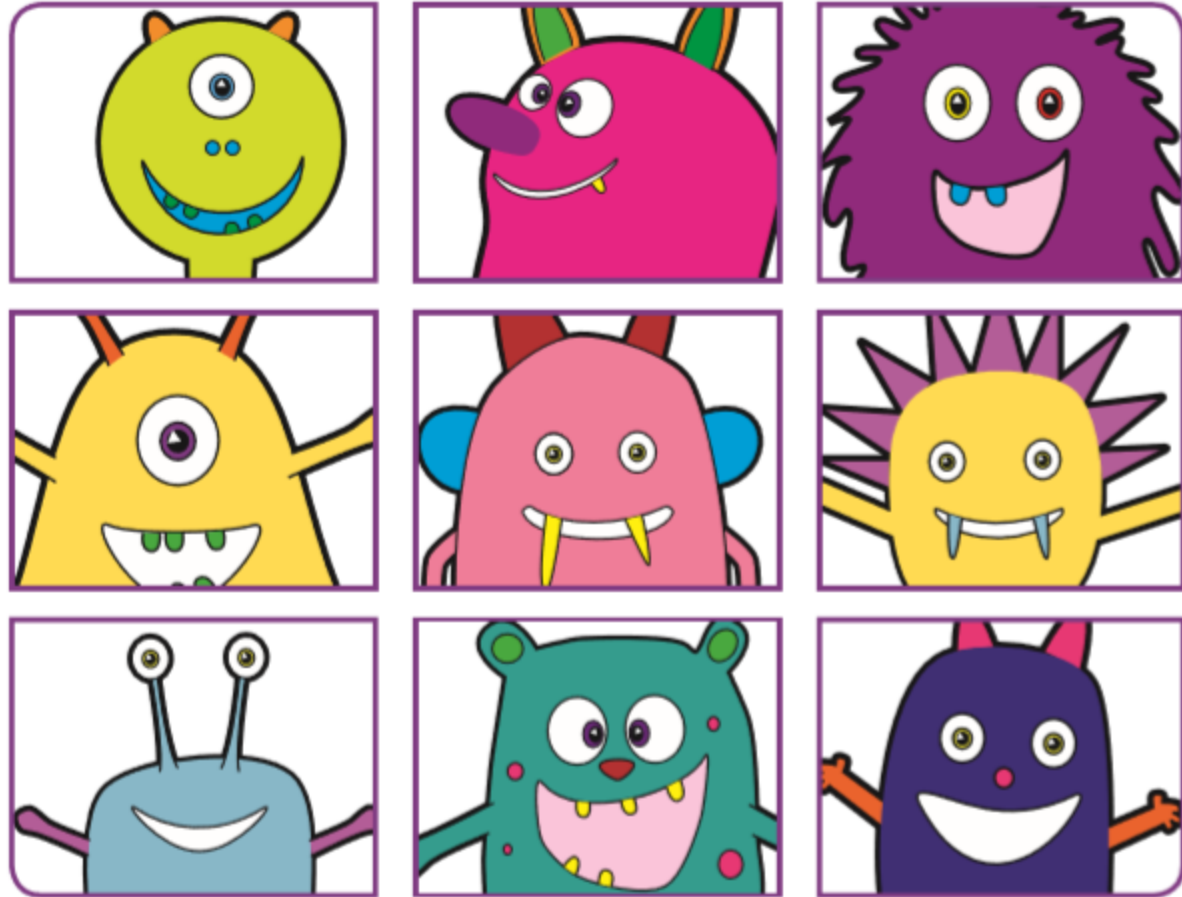
Reading Diaries

We would love you to help us to support your child by:

- Taking the time to listen to your child reading at home- it is beneficial to their future.
- Writing a comment that helps us to know what they have done well with or what they need more practise with- e.g. did they impress you with blending or were they fluent on the first read. It could be that your child has improved with using expression or reading to the punctuation. It's helpful to know if there is a sound that is causing a problem or a tricky word, so that we can work on this in class.
- We want your child to develop the skill of reading as it underpins so much of their learning- let's work together!

Phonics Screening Check 2024

Information for Parents



Preparing for the Phonic Screening Check (PSC)

At this point in Year 1 (Summer 1) will have reached a point in Bug Club Progression where they are now revisiting Phase 5 content in preparation for the Phonics Screening Check (PSC). Whilst children learn phonics to help them with both word reading and spelling, the Phonics Screening Check only tests their skills at word reading, also known as decoding

What is the phonics screening check?

The phonics screening check is a short assessment to check if individual children have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. This is one way the children learn to read.

The check consists of 40 words, 20 real words and 20 pseudo-words that your child will be asked to read one-to-one with a teacher.

It helps to identify the children who need extra help so they are given support by their school to improve their reading skills.

Who is it
for?

The screening check is for all Year 1 pupils and children in Year 2 who previously did not meet the standard of the check in Year 1.

Is it compulsory?

It is a statutory requirement for all schools to carry out the screening check.

When does
the Phonic
Check take
place?

The phonics screening check takes place in
June of each year.

This year, the screening checks begin on
Monday 10th June 2024.

What skills do children need to meet the standard of the phonics screening check?

All children need to be able to identify sounds associated with different letters, and letter combinations, and then blend these sounds together to correctly say the word on the page.

The same skill is needed whether the word is a real word or a non-word. The words gradually get harder through the check as the combinations of letters become more complicated.

Children will also need to recognise 'alternative' sounds in real words, such as 'y' in the word happy having the pronunciation 'e'.

What happens with the scores?

After the check has taken place in June, schools will be given the 'pass' mark. The pass mark has always been 32 out of 40.

Schools do not publish data but they inform parents of their child's score.

Schools use the information to find ways to support the children who do not reach the score and the result will provide teachers with information to help develop the child's skills in phonics.

Is it
stressful?

The assessment is age-appropriate, with children sitting with a teacher who they know. Reading one-to-one with a teacher is a familiar activity for Key Stage 1 children. It should be an enjoyable activity for children and takes no more than a few minutes.

How can you
help at
home?

Practice a mix of 'non- words' and real words.



Ask your child to draw
'sound buttons' underneath each
sound, to show they can
correctly
identify each one.

Say all the sounds individually
then
put the word together.

k-igh = kigh





g - ir - s - t = girst

b - ai - - - m = baim

available online.

Nonsense words

Section 1










stin	
proom	
sarps	
thend	

Real words

2012

Key Stage 1

Phonics screening check
Pupil materials

National Curriculum assessments

Section 2

fair
flute
goat
shine

Sample materials are available on the education.gov.uk website. Below is an example from the 2012 Phonics Screening Test.

All papers from previous years are online.