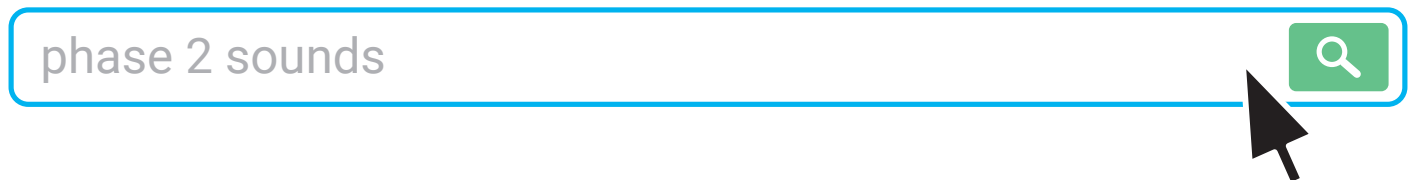


Phase 2 Phonics: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to phase 2 phonics can help you support your child's learning at home. Each subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring phonics together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is learning a series of new sounds, identifying the letter that is associated with that sound and blending these sounds together to form simple words, or they are beginning to recognise some tricky words that don't necessarily use the phonic sound rule, but appear often in English sentences (for example, to, go, no, into, I), you will find a step that matches where your child is at, then have ideas for where to go next.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Phase 2 Phonics

What Is Phonics?

Phonics is the process of learning to read using sounds and symbols that combine to create a phonetic alphabet that can be used to blend words together. At this stage, your child may begin to learn formal phoneme (sound) and grapheme (letter) relationships and start to blend these together to make simple words.

This guide can help you support your child's learning of phase 2 phonics at home. Each step contains an explanation to that stage and a link to an appropriate resource which can be used at home to support their learning.

As well as using the resources in this category and the keyword searches to help your child with phase 2 phonics, below are a few ideas for games and activities to help your child practise this area of learning at home.

Which Elements of Phonics Are Learnt in Phase 2?

When exploring blending (joining sounds to form words) and segmenting (splitting words into the sounds that make them), your child may also use sound buttons to identify how many phonemes are present in each word. The first full words that most schools teach are called CVC words, which stands for consonant-vowel-consonant. These are simple words with letters that follow that pattern, such as d-o-g or p-a-n.

Songs and rhymes are a great way for your child to explore sounds. Repeating patterns and rhythms both help to give your child a regular sequence to follow and repeat while practising using and making different sounds.

In addition to exploring sounds, your child will also be learning about past and present tense in their spoken language, reading and writing.

As well as using the resources found in the Phase 2 Phonics category and the keyword searches suggested, this guide offers a few ideas for games and activities to help your child with exploring phonics.



Phase 2 Phonics

Sticky Label Phonic Hunt

To help your child make links between sounds, letters and words, you could try having a phonic hunt in the house. Use sticky notes and write different letters that your child knows the sound for. Get your child to find something in the room that begins with that sound/letter and attach the sticky note to it. How many can they find?

Collect the Phonic Box

Gather together some empty containers, e.g. trays, shoe boxes or tissue boxes. On each container, place a grapheme for a sound your child may know. Let your child explore your home or back garden to find as many items as possible that begin with each sound that can fit in their container.

Bounce and Blend

Place three hula hoops on the floor, one above the other (as below).

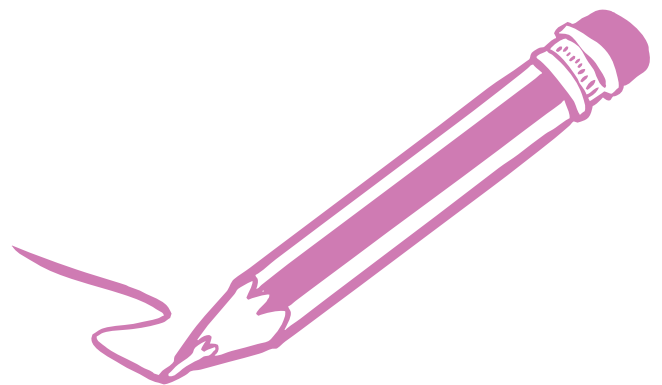


Write letters on paper or print alphabet flashcards to create simple words. Choose a variety of CVC words and place the letters next to each hoop (see below). They will need to start with the first letter in the hoop closest to you.

Get your child to hop from hoop to hoop, saying each sound after the jump. Can they blend the three letters together to form a word?

Letters Into Pictures

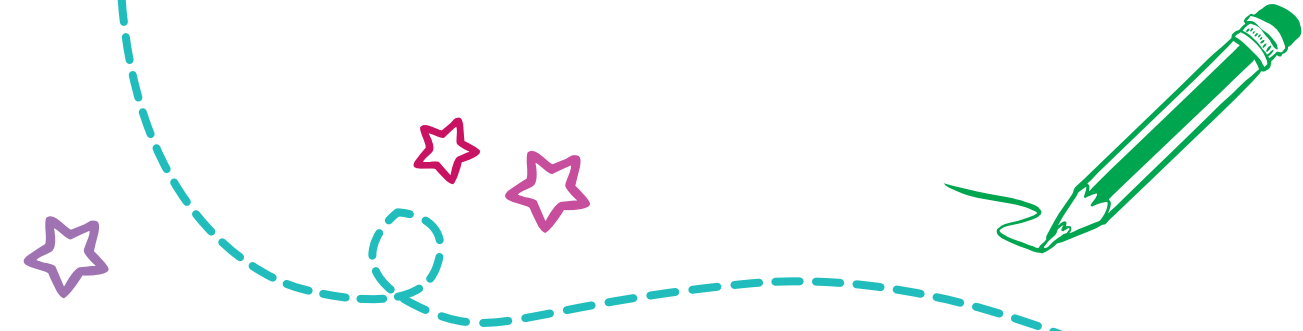
To help your child learn sounds and the letters that are associated with them, you could try creating letter pictures. This is the process of creating a picture using the shapes of letters. To help secure the link between the letter and the sound, we suggest creating an image that begins with the matching sound. For example, the shape of s can be made to look like a snake or the shape of d could look like a dog.



Step 1

Phase 2 Sounds

Once your child has completed phase 1 (which is based on developing their speaking and listening skills), they will move onto phase 2. In this stage, your child will begin to learn new sounds and the letters that are associated with that sound. They will form the sounds and do a variety of games and activities to practise recognising these. Flashcards are a great way for your child to practise recognising the sounds that are associated with different graphemes (letters that make a sound). If you show them a letter (or pair of letters in the case of 'ck', 'ff' and 'll'), can they say the sound that is represented?



Phase 2 Blending

After your child has begun to explore different sounds (phonemes) and letters (graphemes), they will start to blend. Blending is the process of combining letters together to form words. At this step, your child will probably be focussing on creating simple CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant). By saying the sounds aloud, your child may begin to blend sounds together (for example, s-a-t - sat, c-u-p - cup). This CVC PowerPoint is an interactive way to introduce your child to blending. They can use the buttons to hear each sound being spoken, before attempting to join them together into a word.

Step 2

Step 3

Phase 2 Sound Buttons

Sound buttons are used to identify how many phonemes are present in a word. It can be a little tricky for your child to spot the difference between the number of sounds in a word and the number of letters. For example, in the word 'bad', the number of letters and sound buttons are the same, b-a-d, so three. However, in the word 'rocket', the number of letters and sounds are different, as r-o-ck-e-t is six letters but five sounds. Your child could use a sound button PowerPoint to practise counting the number of sound buttons in different words, or they could use the **sound button word cards** to check the number of phonemes in different words.



Step 4

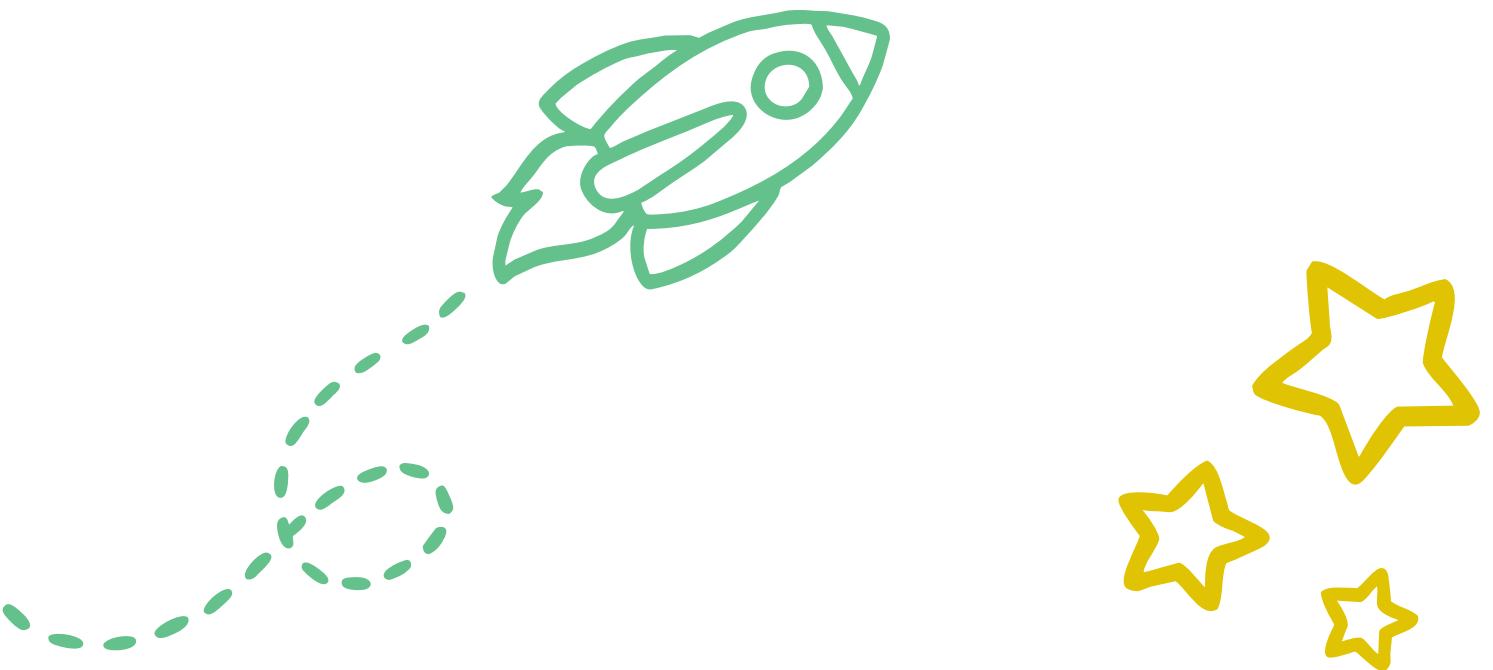
Phase 2 Segmenting

Segmenting is the reverse of blending. In blending, your child combines sounds together to form words. With segmenting, your child hears a word and identifies the different sounds that make up that word. This is a good way for your child to practise not only the phonics sounds they have learnt so far, but also to breakdown spelling patterns and rules. This initial sounds PowerPoint helps your child to segment words, as they have to first identify the word, then segment it into its sounds in order to work out the missing letter.

Solve Missing Number Calculations

Tricky words are ones that don't necessarily follow the phonics rules, but appear often in common sentences. These include words like 'to', 'go', 'the' and 'I'. These tricky words have to be learnt to be read on sight, rather than using sounds and blending to work them out. Flashcards are a good way for your child to practise and rehearse how to identify these words when they see them. How many can they name? Could you work on one word at a time until your child becomes familiar with a wider range?

Step 5

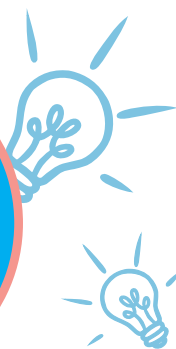


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Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!



Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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Boost



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imagine

Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.



Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire children from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!

