Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- Children in Year 1 throughout the country will be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June (week commencing 12th June).

- The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to the level expected for the end of Year 1.

- This is a statutory assessment.

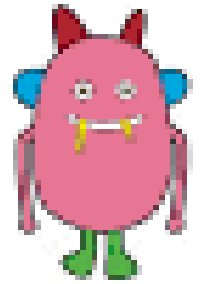
What happens during the check?

- The check contains **40 words**. Each child will sit one-to-one and read each word aloud to their teacher.
- The check will take approximately 10 minutes, although all children can complete the test at their own pace, and take breaks where necessary.
- The list of words the children read is a combination of **20 real words and 20 alien words.**

Practice sheet: Real words

in
at
beg
sum

Section 1

vol	
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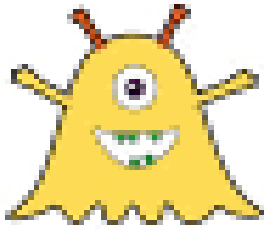
jat	
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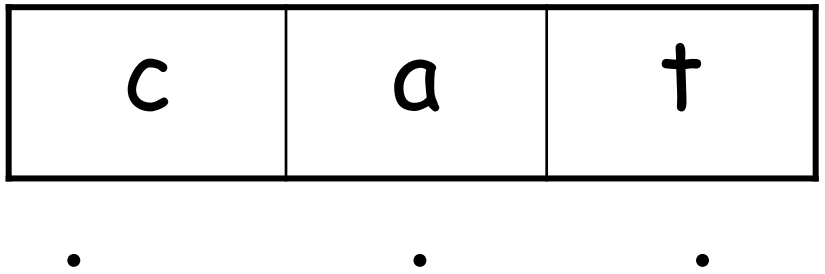
Alien Words

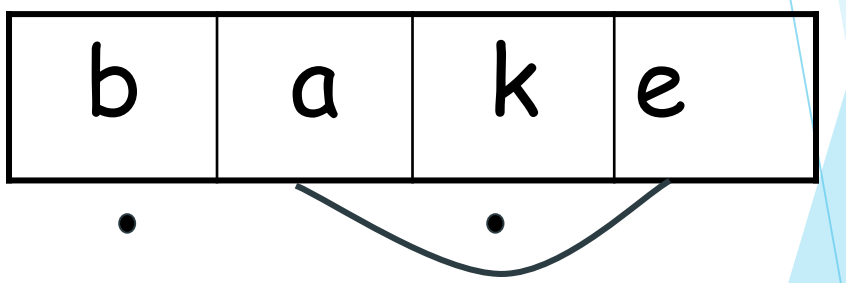
- The alien words will always be accompanied by a picture of an alien.

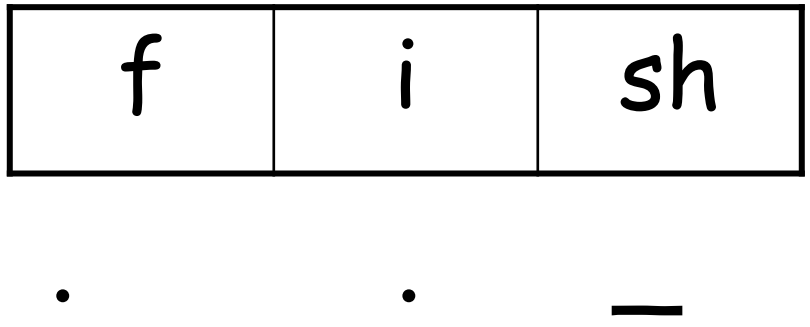
- Alien words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

Sound Buttons

Sound buttons emphasise the different sounds in words.







How would you add the sound buttons for these words ?

log

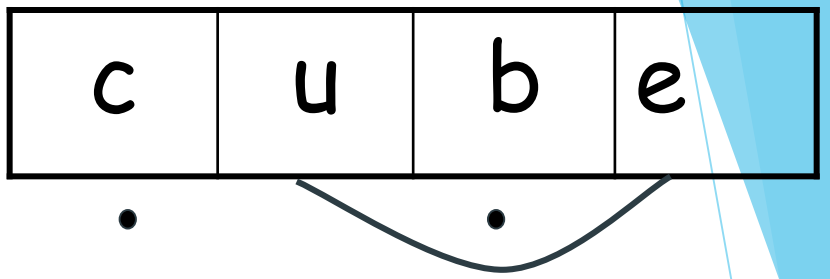
duck

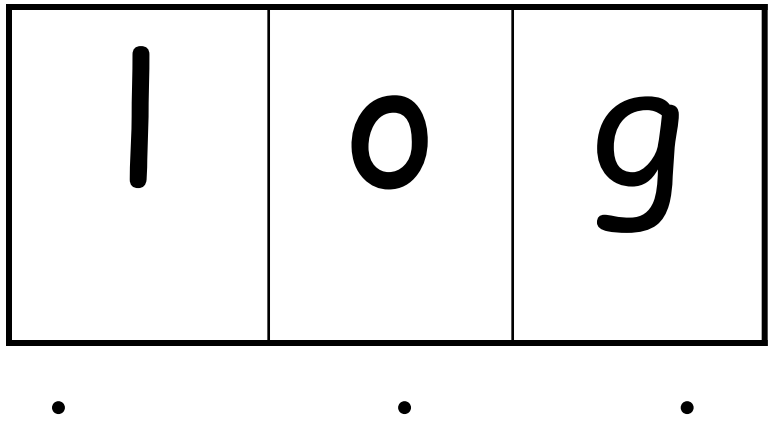
cube

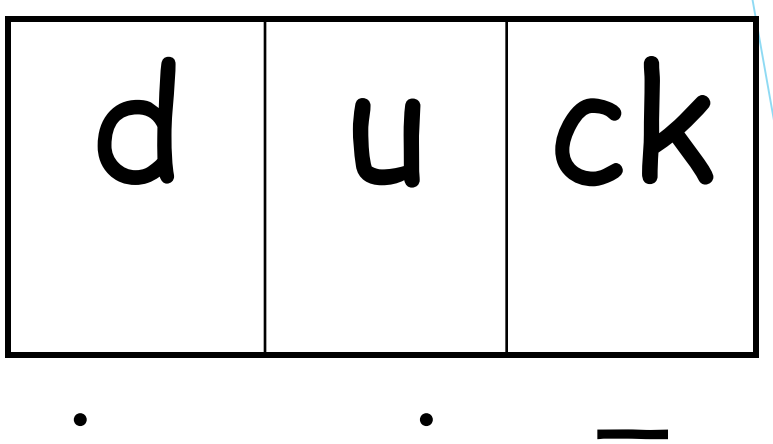
fill

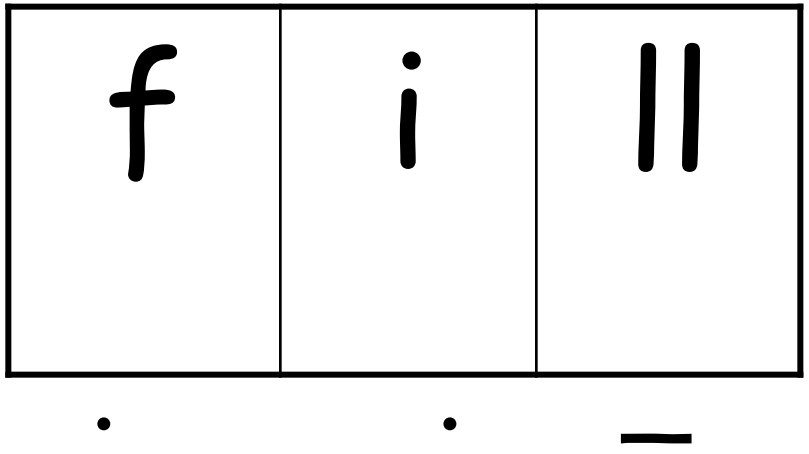
boat

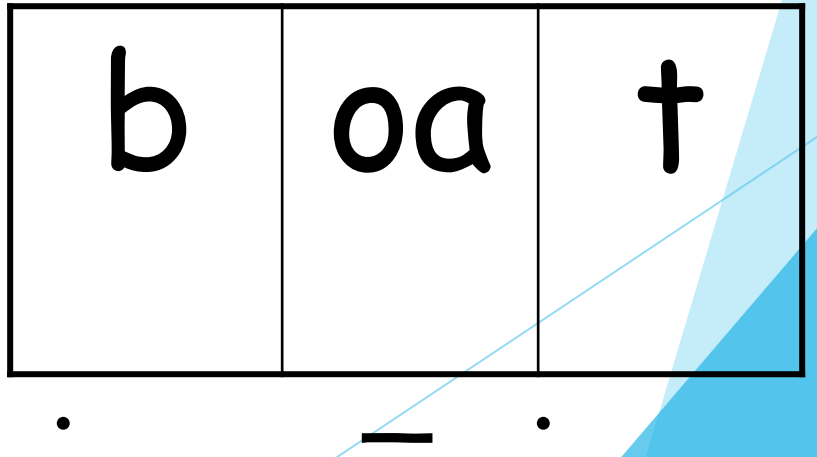
Answers











Common phonemes children find tricky….

air

are

ear

u-e

a-e

i-e

e-e

o-e

The Results

I have completed a mock phonics screen with all pupils. If you would like to know your child's results, please talk to me at the end.

We do not know the pass mark. In previous years, the pass mark has been 32/40; however, this is not set and could change.

You will be given the results with your child's report during the summer term.

If they do not meet the standard in Year 1, they will be retested in Year 2.

What can you do at home?

- Read with your child daily - even if it is just a few pages (not necessarily a whole book).
- Encourage children to ‘give it a go’ if they become stuck on a word, using their sounds.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each one, e.g. /c/ in cat, /p/ in pat, /ng/ in sing, /ee/ in been. Next move your finger under the whole word as you say it.
- Ask your child to identify the ‘sound buttons’ in a word. This will help them to identify the different sounds.