

# Phase 3 Phonics Sounds and Words List

In Phase 3 Phonics, children are introduced to the final single letter sounds plus the most common digraphs (two letters that make a single sound such as 'sh' or 'oo') and trigraphs (three letters that make a single sound such as 'igh' and 'ear').

Sounds Learnt in Phase 3
Set 6 - j, v, w, x
Set 7 - y, z, zz, qu
sh, th, ch, ng
ai, ee, long oo, short oo
oa, ar, or, igh
ur, ow, oi, ear
er, air, ure

When practising sounds with your child, try and avoid putting an 'uh' on the end of a sound. Instead, focus on helping your child to make the 'pure sound' as this is the way it is heard in a word. For example, 'ssss' instead of 'suh', 't-t-t-t' instead of 'tuh'. It can help to think about 'stretchy' sounds which make a longer sound, such as 'ssss', 'mmmm', 'fffff', and 'bouncy' sounds which make a short sound, such as 't-t-t-t', 'b-b-b-b', 'p-p-p-p'.

Children will also be taught a set of 'tricky' words (words that cannot be read by sounding out and therefore need to be learnt by sight) and 'high frequency words' (words that can be sounded out but are seen very frequently in text). Learning these words by sight will help children to read more fluently. In addition, children are taught further words to spell from memory.

Tricky Words to Read	Tricky Words to Spell	High Frequency Words to Read
said, so, was, you, have, like, some, come, were, there, little, one, do, when, out, what	we, me, he, be, she, they, all, are, my, her	went, from, it's, just, help, children

Some schools teach phonics according to the government's 'Letters and Sounds' scheme, with its six distinct 'phases'. Other may choose to use different phonics schemes, where all the sounds and words are still taught, but may be in a different order. It's always worth checking with your child's school, and attending any information sessions they may hold about early reading and writing.

