



# Equipping Literacy Assistants

## Phonics

# Beginning to read text

- Text means words in print. (Hand writing, typed or on a screen)

To be a good reader we need to master 4 things:

1. Sounds (phonics)
2. Identify the shapes of words (sight words)
3. Read fluently (as if we are speaking)
4. Understand what we are reading (comprehension)

# Words are made up of sounds (Phonics)



# Words have shapes (Sight Words)

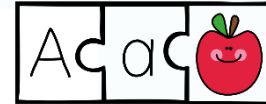


# Literacy in the Primary school

- Sounds and sight words are like two wings of an aeroplane.
- They are equally important.
- They should be taught at the same time.

Teach together

Sounds



Sight  
words

has had  
going

# Visual or auditory learners?

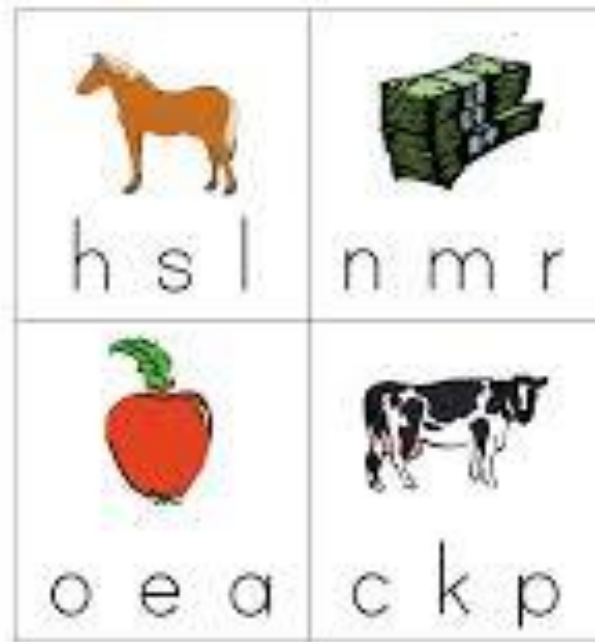
- Some are naturally visual learners. (They learn by recognizing the shapes of the words)
- Some are naturally auditory learners. (They learn best by sounding out the letters of the word.)
- Some are equally good at both sound and sight.

- A visual learner may be sound as if they are reading well, but may not be reading all the words correctly. They might make up words.
- An auditory learner will be able to sound out words but may have stops and starts and read very slowly.
- We need to encourage children in both areas – sound and sight.



# Teaching Phonics

- Stage 1: initial sounds





















“I spy” is a good game for initial sounds.

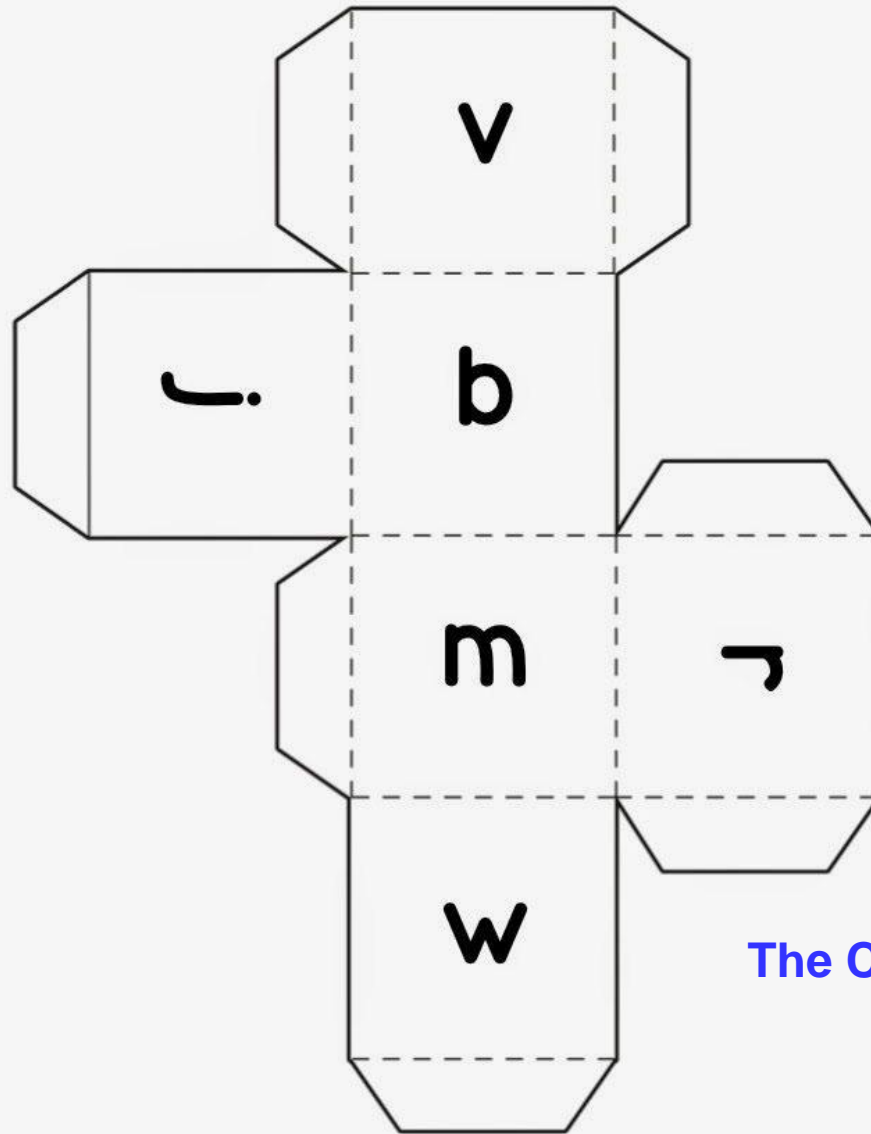
# Activity

- Take a look at your phonics picture charts.
- Also look at your 'Bible Phonics' document, including the picture chart.
- Say the sounds to your partner, (not the letter names).
- OR listen to and repeat the sounds on the Bible Phonics audio mp3

# Sound Bingo

a



The Cube or Box Game



# Activity

View the Resource File no. 1: Bible Phonics, Progressive Phonics and Phonics Games.

Begin to make the resources and games for teaching initial sounds.

- Pictures and letters for “Word Bingo”
- Make the box (cube)

# Phonics: 3-letter words

- **Stage 2:** Three letter phonetic words

e.g. c - a - t

Attention drawn to:

1. Initial sound
2. End sound
3. Middle sound

At this stage don't call the letters by their actual name. Use the sound.

# Phonics: 3-letter words

- Can be sounded using initial sounds

The following are not 3-letter phonetic words:

the

one

was



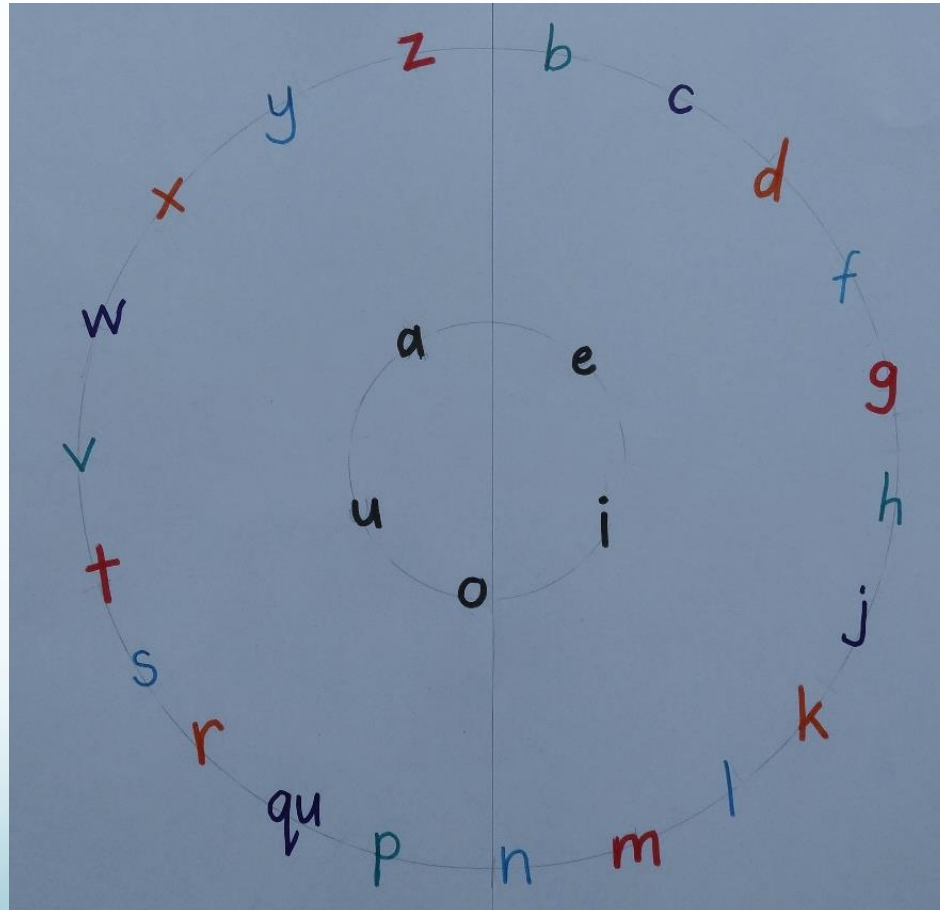
# Example of a phonics game with 3-letter words



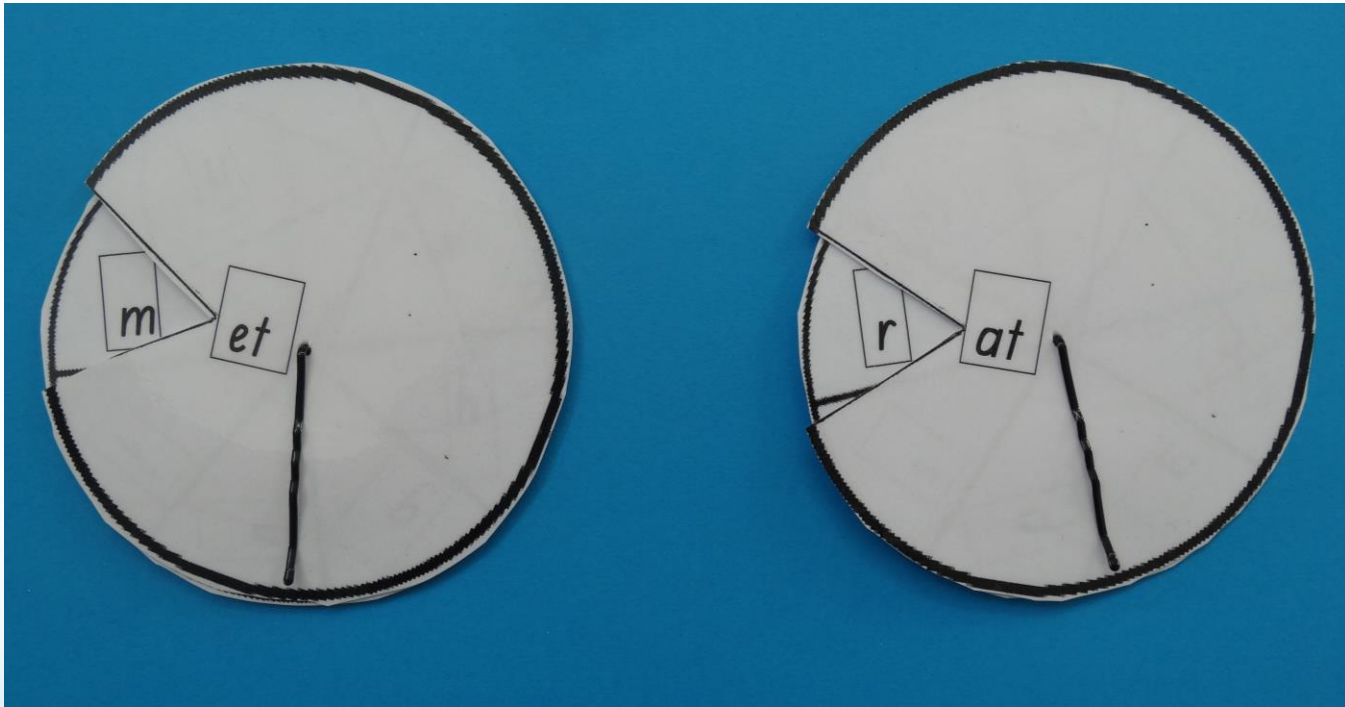
# Phonics flippers



# Circle of sounds



# Word wheels



# Bottle top letters



# Activity

Make the rest of the games that can be used to teach 3-letter words:

- Word wheel
- Phonics flipper
- Bottle top letters
- Circle of sounds

# Phonics: Consonant blends

## Stage 3

### Consonant blends:

sh

ch

th

Now students can sound words like 'chip' and 'ship'.

\* Know the difference between vowels and consonants

# More consonant blends

## Stage 4

Consonant blends

e.g.

**b**lack

**t**ruck

**s**kip





# Consonant blends

**sh, ch, th** will need to be taught. These consonant blends make one sound, e.g. we do not say “c’ “h’ separately.



# Consonant blends

At this stage, why would you teach words like:

**fl**ag, **sl**ip, **dr**ag

And not

**fl**ower, **sl**ee**p**, **dr**eam

?????

# Consonant blends

Answer:

The students have just moved up from 3-letter words.

So far they only know **initial sounds** that make up words.

They have not yet been introduced to vowel combinations like **'ow' 'ee' 'ea'**

Check your consonant blends sheet for a full list of suitable words.

# Word families

## Stage 5

Vowels come together in word families

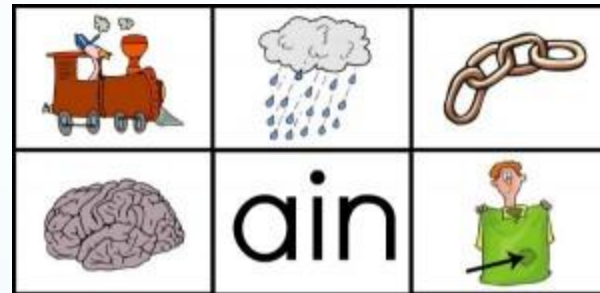
**Example:** long 'o' in boat. Look at the words that are made the same way.



coat  
soap  
float  
toast  
coat  
throat

# Play a matching game

- Now use your cards to play a matching game with the 'long a' words, e.g. word scramble.



gave

brain

day

key  
word

rain

snail

tray

gravy

lake

way

snake

tiger

bike

light

five

bite

might

die

smile

line

fly

# More examples

Words are grouped in families made by vowels.

- snail, rain, pain (long 'a')
- tree, sheep, feet (long 'e')
- line, pipe, time (long 'i')
- Notice that the words don't have to rhyme



# Activity

- Look at your picture chart of short and long vowels.
- Practice saying the short and long vowel sounds.
- Look at the Progressive Phonics picture chart.
- Play a phonics game using words with vowel combinations, e.g. **snake**, **snail**, **tray**
- Make some flashcards for some of the word families in Progressive Phonics.