

Supporting with Phonic

A guide to phonics terminology

Phoneme - the smallest unit of sound.

Grapheme - a letter or sequence of letters that represent a phoneme.

Digraph - 2 letters representing 1 phoneme e.g. ee ai ow ar

Trigraph - 3 letters representing 1 phoneme e.g. air ear

Split digraph - 2 letters representing one phoneme but it is split within a word e.g. 'a-e' in 'cake' or 'o-e' in 'hole'

Syllable - a beat in a word.

Monosyllabic - word with 1 syllable

Polysyllabic - word with 2 or more syllables.

Segment - ability to hear individual phonemes

Blend- ability to merge the individual phonemes to pronounce the word.

CVC word - consonant vowel consonant word e.g. cat or sheep.

CCVC word - consonant consonant vowel consonant e.g. clip or drop.

CVCC word - consonant vowel consonant consonant e.g. milk or lift.

Suffix - something that is added to a word at the end e.g. 'ed' 'ing' 'ly' chatted lovely

Prefix - something that is added to the start of a word e.g. 'dis' disobey or 'un' unwell

Useful websites for parents:

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/>

Some further ideas for activities, keep them short, fun and try to vary them.

- I Spy
- Making and playing pairs games
- Making and playing bingo games
- Hangman
- Odd one out - children identify a word which doesn't share the same phoneme/grapheme
- Word searches
- Sorting words o Countdown - give them phonemes they know and see if can make words.
- Hide and seek - write words/phonemes on cards which relate to particular phoneme or words you want them to practice, hide words and children have to find them and read them. They could also play this game where they have to spell the words and then hide them for someone else to find.