



Year One

Phonics

screening check

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- A phonics test for all children in Year One across the country
- It will take place the week beginning 11th June
- Designed to check whether children have met the expected standard in phonics

What happens during the test?

- The children will work one to one with their teacher out of the classroom in a relaxed environment
- The test contains 40 words - 20 real words and 20 pseudo/alien words
- They will be asked to read words independently. The test will take approximately 10 minutes

What will it check?

That children can:

- sound out and blend graphemes to read words to the standard expected by the end of Year One
- read one syllable and two syllable words with a range of graphs, digraphs, split digraphs and trigraphs
- read real and pseudo/alien words

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Phonics vocabulary

Graph - one letter that makes one sound, e.g. a

Digraph - two letters that make one sound, e.g. or

Split digraph - a digraph split by a consonant. The 'e' changes the first letter of the digraph to make its letter name

Trigraph - three letters that make one sound, e.g. air

Phonics vocabulary

Sound button - a dot or a line under a graph/
digraph/trigraph to show the sounds in words
e.g. night quiz crunch strap

Polysyllabic words - words with more than one
syllable, e.g. helper, bandstand, reptiles, fighters

Why are pseudo words included?

- To ensure that children can decode unfamiliar words
- As alien words there is no bias as they will be new to all children
- Between 40% and 60% of the real words will be less common words that the children will be less likely to have come across before and therefore will need to decode using phonics rather than relying on sight memory

How will children know the difference between real and pseudo words?

- All pseudo words will have a picture of an alien so the children know that it is an alien/nonsense word



What happens after the test?

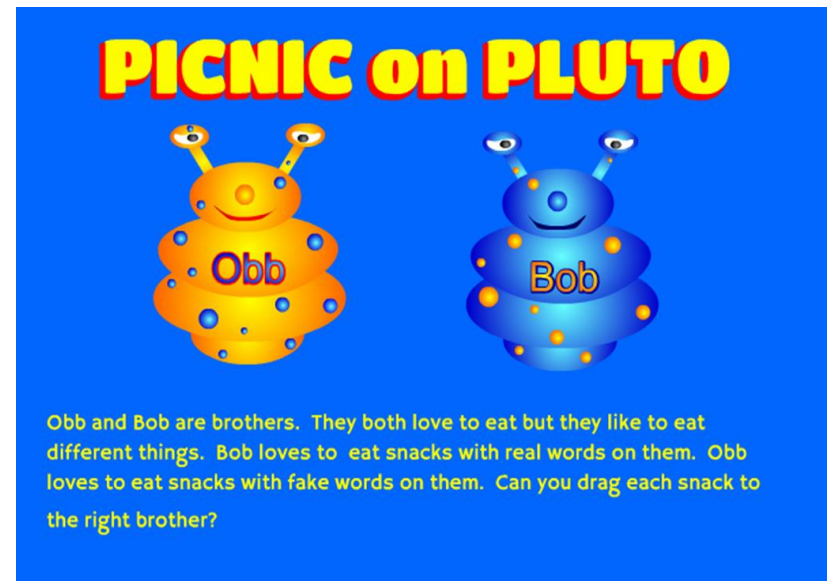
- Results are sent off and at a later date schools will be notified of the pass mark. For the last few years this has been 32 out of 40
- Parents and carers will be informed of their child's results later in the summer term
- Children who do not pass will retake it at the end of Year Two

How can I help my child at home?

- Practice reading at least 5 times a week
- Encourage children to sound out unfamiliar words independently
- Be a phonic detective! Help your child spot digraphs, split digraphs and trigraphs in words and add sound buttons
- Make up alien words and choose less common words from reading books to practice reading
- Practice reading two syllable words, reminding children to blend bit by bit

How can I help my child at home?

- There are online games for the children to practise reading real and alien words



Any questions?