

Learning for life - together we discover, nurture, achieve and shine.

Respect

Resourcefulness

Resilience

Reflectiveness

What is Phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully.

Phonics teaches children to recognise sounds that each letter makes. In the English language there are 44 sounds or phonemes but 120 different ways to write them. Some phonemes are made up of more than one letter. For example, some sounds contain 2 letters such as 'sh', 'ch' or 'ay'. These are known as digraphs. There are some sounds that contain 3 letters such as 'igh', 'are' or 'ore'. These are known as trigraphs. A few sounds are made up of 4 letters such as 'aigh'.

So how does Nine Mile Ride Primary make Phonics easy for children to learn?

To help children learn all these sounds in an easy and simple way, as well as teach the different ways of writing them, Nine Mile Ride teaches phonics through the Letters and Sounds program.

We have a daily phonics session in our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 classes following the Letters and Sounds document. This provides a synthetic and systematic approach to the teaching of phonics and supports both the development of children's reading and writing skills. Some children in Key Stage 2 also have a daily phonics and spelling sessions.

From Reception, the children are taught in phonic phase groups that are appropriate to their level of learning. The children are monitored and assessed regularly and groupings are sorted accordingly.

In Key Stage 1, weekly spellings are based on the current week's teaching and contain both tricky and decodable words.

In Key Stage 2, weekly spellings are linked to the National Curriculum word lists, spelling rules and patterns that are being taught in addition to topic words or words that are commonly misspelt.

Phonics Screening

The Government introduced Phonics Screening Check as a way of making sure your child is making good progress and is on track for becoming a fluent reader by the end of year 2.

Click the links below to help your child practice reading real and nonsense (or pseudo) words for this year's Phonics Screening Check. There is one for each school day!

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Click the link below to read nonsense words in a fun way!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJo_Tpw0Wt8

Below is a list of different useful web links which can help you with teaching phonics to your children at home

- <http://www.ruthmiskintraining.com/news/tag-36/index.html> this link leads you to the parent section of Ruth Miskin website and contains useful articles.
- www.free-phonics-worksheets.com – worksheets for a variety of sounding and blending.
- <http://www.firstschoolyears.com/literacy/word/word.htm> contains a variety of activities that include sounds and high frequency words.
- www.primaryresources.co.uk – under word level section of literacy, there are phonics and alphabet work.
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/literacy – a selection of interactive games focusing on phonics and sentence construction.
- www.ictgames.com/literacy.html – contains a selection of games that links to the program Letters and Sounds.
- www.phonicsplay.co.uk – this has a range of interactive games.
- <http://www.phonics-test.co.uk/> - for more information on Phonics Screening Check.