



HOW TO HELP WITH PHONICS

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What Is Phonics?

- Phonics makes learning to read easier, simpler and crucially gets children reading quicker. This helps to increase a child's confidence and instil a love of reading from an early age. Rather than memorising 1,000s of words individually, children are instead taught a phonics 'code'.
- Phonics teaches children the 3 necessary skills to be independent readers and writers:
 - Blending sounds for reading – pushing sounds together
 - Segmenting sounds for writing – pulling a word apart into its sounds
 - Sound manipulation – swapping sounds in and out of words
- The focus is on letter sounds not letter names.
- Here is a link to the pronunciation of each sound:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwJx1NSineE>

Sounds Write Phonics

- Phonics is taught daily for 30 minutes.
- The scheme we use in school for teaching phonics is 'Sounds Write'.
- New spellings are taught through word building activities. Children are encouraged to build up reading fluency through word and sentence activities.
- Children are first taught the sounds for the letters of the alphabet and are then taught some common two letter spellings.

<https://www.udemy.com/course/help-your-child-to-read-and-write>



The screenshot shows the UdeMy course page for 'Help your child to read and write'. The course is titled 'Help your child to read and write' and is described as 'Sounds Write Phonics Program, Initial Code, Units 1-7'. It has a 4.8 star rating from 11,001 ratings and 30,226 students. The course is free and created by John Walker. The page includes a video player showing two children reading books, a 'Preview this course' button, and a list of learning objectives under the heading 'What you'll learn'.

Help your child to read and write
Sounds Write Phonics Program, Initial Code, Units 1-7
4.8 ★★★★★ (11,001 ratings) 30,226 students [1] 11 hours of on-demand video
Created by John Walker

Free
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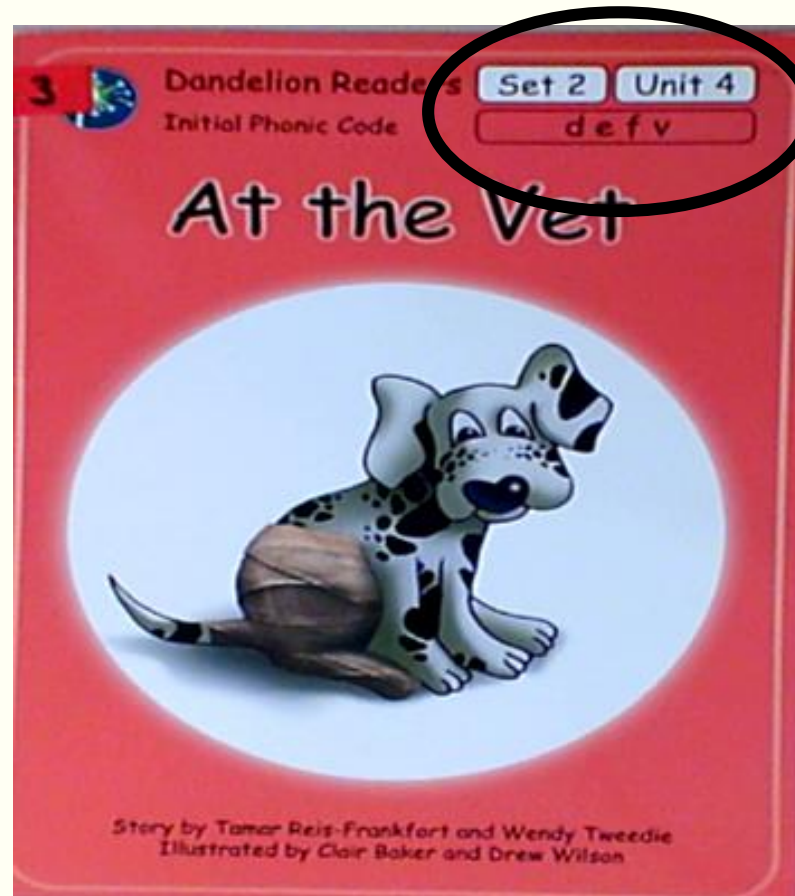
- ✓ help your child take their first steps in reading and spelling
- ✓ understand how to help your child build, write and read simple cvc (consonant, vowel, consonant) words
- ✓ understand how to correct your child when they make a mistake in their writing or writing single words
- ✓ have a basic understanding of how phonics works

The Order Sounds Are Taught

- Unit 1 – s,a,t,i,m
- Unit 2 - n, o, p
- Unit 3 – b, c, g, h
- Unit 4 – d, e, f, v
- Unit 5 – k, l, r, u
- Unit 6 – j, w, z
- Unit 7 – x, y, ff, ll, ss, zz
- Unit 8 - cvcc
- Unit 9 - ccvc
- Unit 10 – ccvcc, cvccc, cccvc
- Unit 11 – sh, ch, th, ck, wh, ng, qu*

Dandelion Readers

- Children will bring home two phonics reading books each week. Each book will have a focus sounds that that the children have already learnt in school.



Dandelion Readers

- Encourage your child to use their phonics knowledge to decode words they do not know in their reading book, “Say the sounds and read the word.” If your child does not know one of the sounds, tell them the unknown sound and then encourage them to read the word.
- Spend a few minutes after reading looking at the words that have the focus sound in the book.
- Ask questions about the words in the book, Point to words out of order on the page and ask your child to read the word you are pointing to.
- At the back of the book are reading and spelling practice pages. Play games with these target words to build up fluency.
 - How quickly can you read the whole list?
 - Close your eyes and point to a word.
 - Write the sounds onto pieces of paper for children to put together to build the words.
 - Make two copies of the words and find the matching pairs.
- These books are shared amongst the classes, so it is important they are brought back into school each week. There is a £5 charge for any book that is lost or damaged.

Phonics for Writing

- Encourage your child to write frequently at home.
- When they are writing, encourage your child to use their phonics skills, “Say the sounds and write the word.” If they want to write a word with an unknown spelling help them by giving them the sound they don’t know and using their phonics skills for the ones they do know e.g. **said**
- In school we encourage children to spell phonetically.
- Where you can stretch out the sounds your child is writing so they can hear the sound for longer e.g. mmmmmat. Not all sounds can be stretched.
- Ask your child what sounds they can hear.
- Write shopping lists together and talk about the sounds/spellings in the words.
- Write letters or emails to friends and relatives.

Phonics for Reading

- When reading any books together talk about the spellings in the words. Praise them for spotting target letters and words.
- Play sound swap games using letter cards.
- Use magnetic letters to build words and swap sounds in words.
- Listen to your children read everyday. Encourage children to read their reading books more than once each week so they can build up in confidence and fluency.
- Look out for words and sounds your child could read when in the car/on the bus/ walking around the shops etc.
- Show your child you are excited to hear them read. Pick a time that is calm and quiet so they recognise it is a special time.
- Let your child see you reading so they can recognise reading as a life skill.



Any Questions?

