# Y1 Phonics Screening Check



- General Information about the Screening Check.
- The purpose of the check.
- How it is administered
- How you can support your child



#### What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- The government introduced the Phonics Screening Check to all schools in June 2012.
- All children in Year 1 take the test in June.
- Provides information for teachers and parents on how each child is progressing in phonics.

## What is the purpose of the check?

 Helps to identify whether a child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.



#### What does it check?

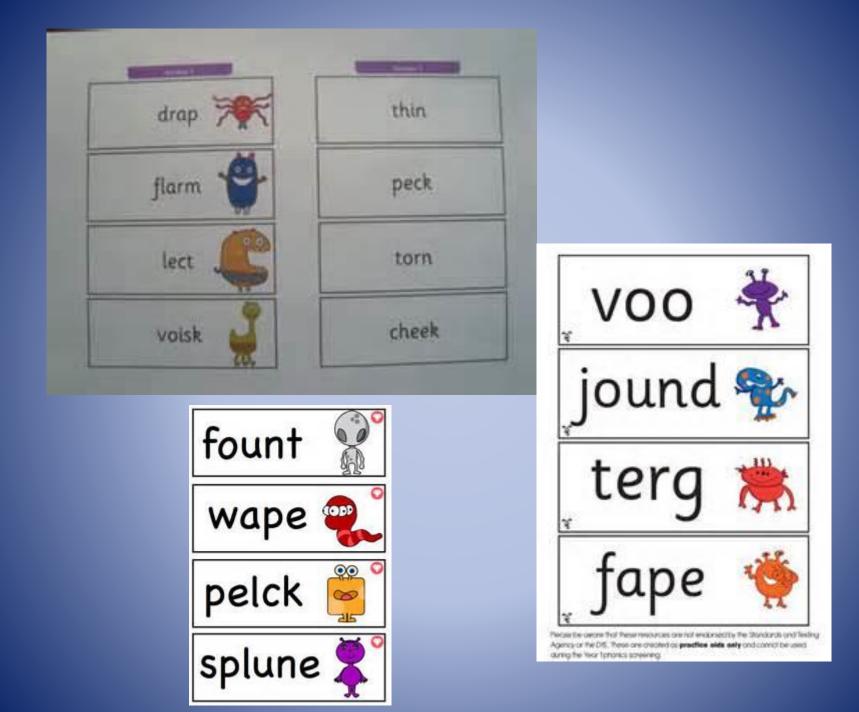
It will check how well a child can:

- Sound out and blend graphemes in order to read simple words.
- Read phonically de-codable one-syllable and two-syllable words.

## How is the check structured?

- 40 words 4 words per page
- Real and pseudo words ('alien' words)
- 'Alien' words have pictures to make clear they are not real words.
- Words become progressively more challenging.





## Why 'alien' words?

- The purpose of the alien words is to check the child's ability to use their phonic knowledge to decode.
- The words are made up of graphemes that they will have learnt.
- They can't be guessed!



#### How is the check administered?

- Class teacher familiarity for children
- Quiet place- 1:1
- Takes around 5 to 10 minutes per child but no time limit
- Strict guidelines for teachers on how to administer the test to ensure consistency.

## How is it marked?



- The child is given 1 mark for each word that is correctly decoded.
- The check is marked whilst it is being administered.
- Can be externally moderated to ensure guidelines are followed.
- A 'pass' mark is set by the Department for Education. It is usually around 32.

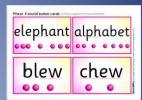
#### What happens next?

 If a child does not meet the pass mark they are required to re-take the screening check in Year 2.

 The data is passed on to the Year 2 teachers so that they can plan any additional support that may be required.

## How can you support your child?

Keep practising the phonic sounds.



- Encourage your child to segment and blend new words when reading.
- Work on the words recently sent home in a pack to build confidence.
- Have fun making up 'alien' words that your child can segment and blend.

