

## Phase 1

Phase 1 is intended to develop children's listening, vocabulary, and speaking skills.

Children are taught about:

- Environmental sounds
- Rhythm and rhyme
- Alliteration
- Oral blending and segmenting

## Phase 2

Children begin to learn more common letter sounds (**phonemes**), beginning with the most commonly used phonemes first (the 19 most common single letter sounds).

They will also be introduced to basic sight words like "the" or "and".

By the end of phase 2, children should be able to read consonant-vowel-consonant words.

## Phase 3

Children are introduced to more commonly used phonemes, such as /ch/, /ar/, /ow/, and /ee/.

In addition to this, children are also taught to recognize more tricky sight words, including "me", "was", "my", "you", and "they".

They learn the names of the letters, as well as the sounds they make.

## Phase 4

By phase 4, children should be confident with each phoneme, and be able to segment and blend CVCC words such as belt, milk, bump, etc. They will be introduced to beginning and ending blends (bl, cl, fl, mp, st, etc.)

They will learn trickier sight words like "have", "like", "some", and "little". Children should be confident enough to work out new words, read and spell sight words, and practice reading and writing sentences.

## Phase 5

Children should be quicker to segment and blend words and start to do it silently.

They will learn new **graphemes** (new ways of spelling each sound) and alternative pronunciations for these. They will learn about consonant and vowel **digraphs** like "ee", "ie", "oa", as well as split digraphs, "a-e" or "the magic 'e'" in words like "name", "like", and "same".

Children should be able to read and spell unfamiliar words of up to 3 syllables.

## Phase 6

Children become more fluent readers by this point, able to recognize all first 100 high frequency words. They will be able to read more unfamiliar words by decoding them and spell most words accurately.

They will also learn prefixes and suffixes like "ed", the past tense, and spelling rules, among other things.