Phonics Screening Check

Overview

- The phonics screening check is a reading task designed to check your child's phonics knowledge.
- It assesses phonics knowledge learnt in Reception and Year 1.
- It is a statutory requirement for all children in Year 1 to take the check.
- It was piloted in 2011 and the first checks took place in 2012. The average pass mark during the pilot was 32%.
- It aims to identify the children who need extra help with decoding so they are given support by the school to improve their reading skills.

Key Information

- In 2013 the check will take place during the week commencing Monday 17th June. If a child is absent during that week, the school can administer the check up until Friday 28 June 2013.
- It will be carried out by your child's class teacher.
- □ There are 40 words to be read. 20 of these words are real, 20 are non words (nonsense) words.
- □ The check normally takes between 5 10 minutes to complete but there is no time limit.
- If your child is struggling, the teacher will stop the check.
- In 2012 the threshold was 32 words out of 40.

Results

- ☐ The results of the screening check will be shared with parents/carers later in the term.
- If your child has not met the expected standard, the school will explain the support that has been put in place to help your child's phonics improve.
- Children will then be able to retake the check in Year 2.
- All children are individuals who develop at different rates. The screening check ensures that teachers understand which children need extra help with phonic decoding.

Practice sheet: Real words Practice sheet: Pseudo words in ot at vap osk beg ect sum

Preparation - School

- Daily phonics lessons following the Letters and Sounds document.
- Daily reading sessions.
- Extra literacy phonics session to recap more difficult phase 5 sounds e.g. split digraphs a-e, i-e etc.
- Focus on phonic sounds during lessons.
- Phonic related games.
- □ It is important to note that phonic decoding is only a small part of learning to read. We encourage the use of a range of different strategies: e.g. pictures clues, comprehension activities, memory (tricky words).

Preparation - Home

- Regular reading reading books, books of interest etc.
- Encouraging the use of sounding out when completing homework or any written work.
- Online phonic games:
- www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- www.ictgames.com
- http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics
- Lots of sleep, water bottles in school, breakfast etc.

Further Information

- http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/pedagogy/a00198207/faqs-year-1-phonics-screening-check
- http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Question/Index/
- FAQ phonics
- Top Tips for phonics
- Examples of sounds