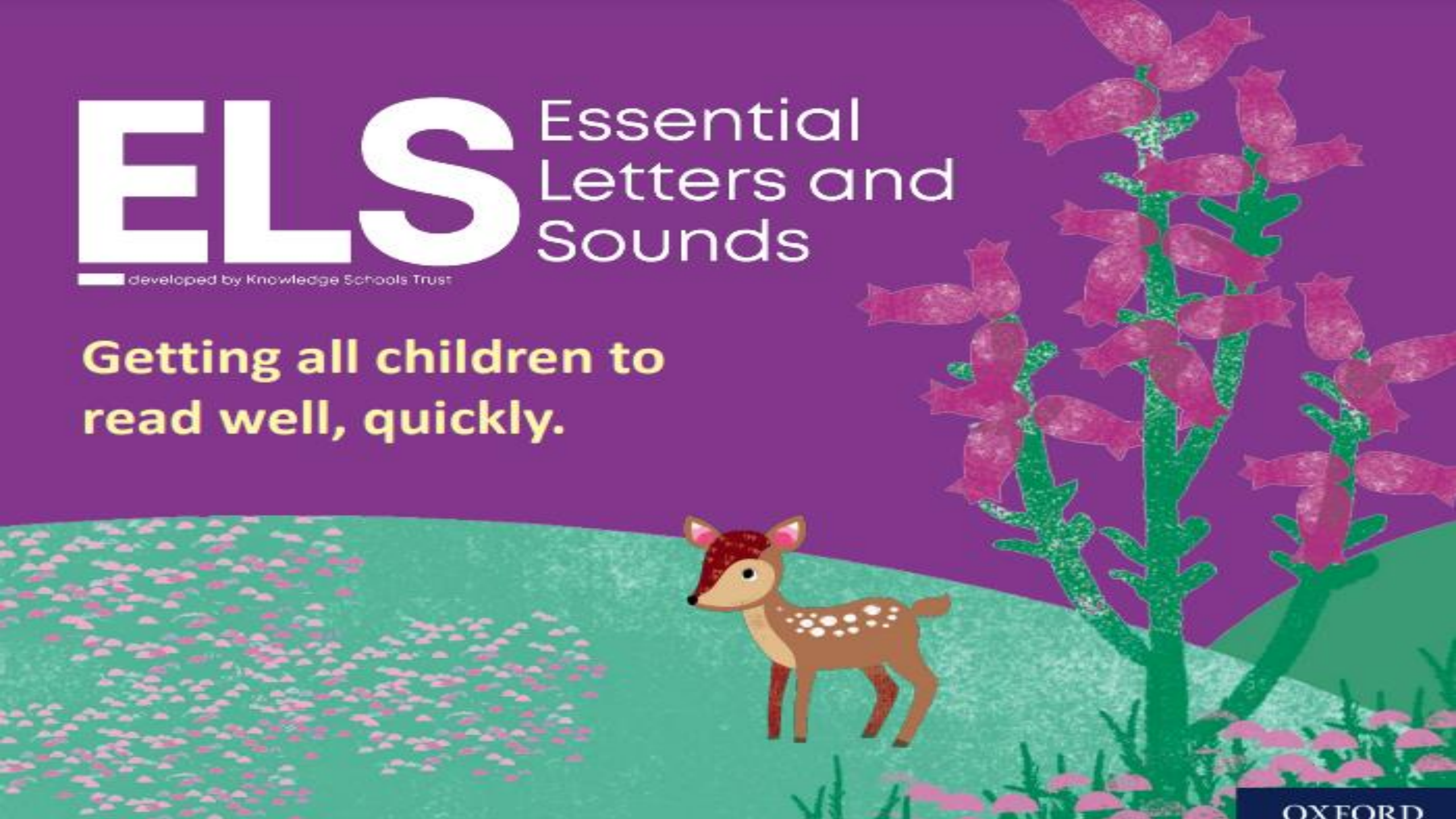
ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

developed by Knowledge Schools Trust

Getting all children to read well, quickly.



OXFORD

Priorities for us

- **Reading** is at the **heart of our school and curriculum-** a priority for us!
- **Instil a love of reading** from the very beginning of primary school
- We want all children to be **confident, fluent, successful readers and writers**
- We do not put a ceiling on what our children can do or achieve
- Regular CPD & support for all staff
- Information shared with parents and carers

What is Phonics?

A method of teaching beginners to read and pronounce words by learning to associate letters or letter groups with the sounds they represent.

There are 44 main sounds in the English Language. Each sound is represented by a grapheme (the written representation of a sound).

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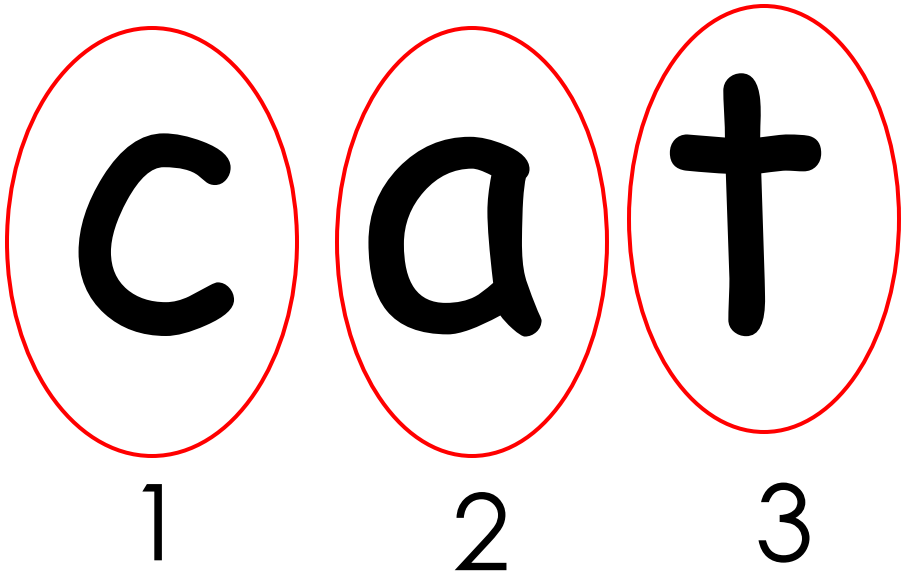
Phoneme: the smallest single identifiable sound in a word. For example, in the word 'cat' there are three phonemes c/a/t.



Grapheme: the written representation of a sound.

ELS Phonics in Nursery

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Foundation Stage

Planning

Environmental Sounds - Instrumental Sounds - Body percussions Sounds - Rhythm and Rhyme – Alliteration - Voice Sounds - Oral Blending

Autumn Term *focus on language and vocabulary, developing sound awareness and speech.*

Spring Term *begins to use GPCs are introduced alongside rhymes, alliteration and poems for each single letter sound. Activities linked to the sounds and illustrations are provided.*

Summer Term *continues to introduce GPCs alongside fine and gross motor skills activities and looking at reliably pronouncing speech sounds through focusing on the shape and area of our mouths that pronounce each sound. Activities linked to the sounds and illustrations are provided.*

What does that look like in our preschool setting?
Autumn term

Increased understanding of vocabulary and language.

Developing listening skills and communication with others

Increasing awareness of the sounds both within our environment and within our language.

Day 1 – Say the sound

Me then you:

s…s…s…s…s

Sid the silly snake.

What does that look like in our preschool setting?

Spring term/Summer term – one sound a week

Day 2 – Look at the sound and formation rhyme.

Me then you: (Show the flashcard)

s…s…s…s…s

(Swerve around the snake).

Silly Sid the snake slithered into a stinky, salty swamp..

Day 3 + 4 – Look at words starting with the sound.

s

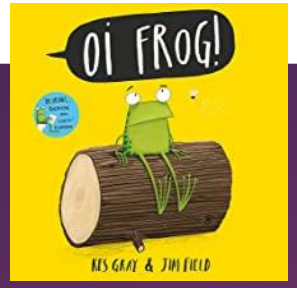
s … s … snake
s … s … sock
s … s … sandcastle

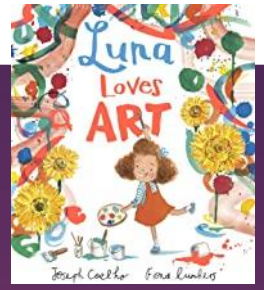
Day 5 – Find the sound, trace the sound, say the sound.

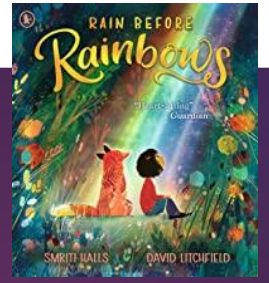
s	“	#
^	s	s
s	£	@

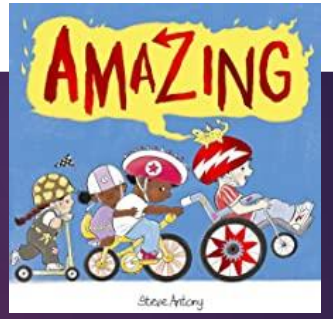
s	a	a
a	s	s
a	£	a

Love of Reading



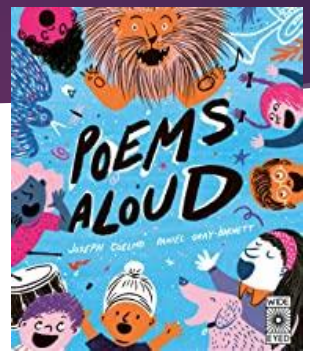


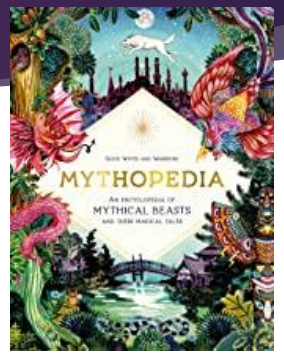


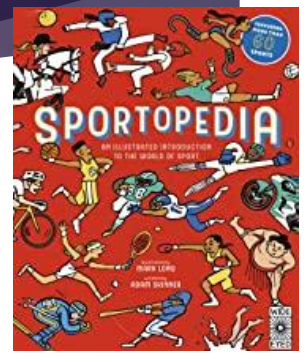


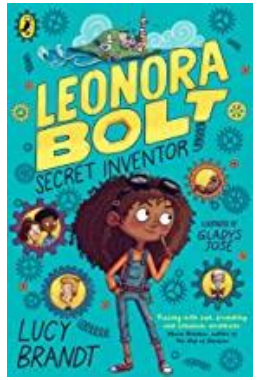
Share and celebrate reading- both in school and at home

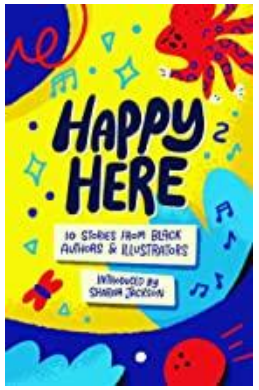
- Discover authors, illustrators and genres- both children and staff
- Lots of reading aloud and time for independent reading time
- Book talk: likes, dislikes, puzzles and connections
- Recommending books and utilising engaging book corners with books as the focus and the Library

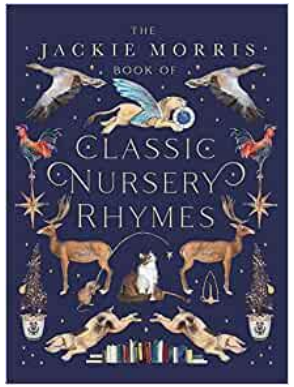












Supporting your child at home

Pronouncing pure sounds

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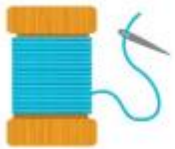
We must use pure sounds when we are pronouncing the sounds and supporting children in reading words.

If we mispronounce these sounds we will make reading harder for our children.

There are videos for this on our school website where you can hear the correct pronunciation of the sounds.



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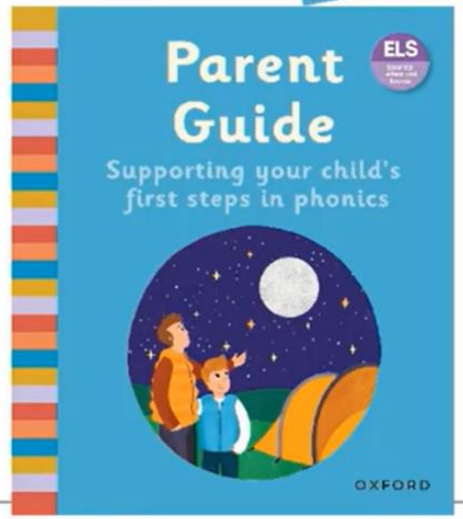
ELS at home

Supporting Children at Home

- Sharing stories
- Pointing to images and talking about meaning when reading
- Sharing a range of high-quality stories
- Explaining vocabulary and modelling its use
- Talking about play
- Spot the sound
- Can you rhyme?
- Same sounds
- Oral blending
- Repeating rhymes/songs/stories
- Book talk



ELS at home

My Phonics 1 Activity Kit
Perfect for supporting first steps in Letters and Sounds
Parent Guide
My Phonics 2 Activity Kit
Perfect for supporting next steps in Letters and Sounds
Can You See Sasha?
My Phonics 3 Activity Kit
Perfect for supporting phonics reading practice
A Fantastic Trip

Age 3-5
Phonics Flashcards
Pack 1
Age 3-5
Phonics Flashcards
Pack 2
Age 5-7
Phonics Flashcards
Pack 3