

Phonics Glossary

Word	Definition
Phoneme	<p>Each sound that you hear in a word is a phoneme. It's the smallest unit of sound that makes up a word. For example- dog has 3 phonemes d-o-g.</p> <p>There are approximately 44 sounds which make up words in the English language.</p>
Grapheme	<p>Is how a phoneme is written down. A grapheme can be one , two , three or four letters.</p> <p>For example- s, ch, igh, ough</p>
Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence/ GPC	Being able to match a phoneme to a grapheme and vice versa.
Digraph	<p>A grapheme containing two letters that makes one sound (phoneme).</p> <p>For example- eg sh oo or</p>
Trigraph	<p>A grapheme containing three letters that makes one sound (phoneme).</p> <p>For example- eg igh, air</p>
Vowel digraph	<p>A digraph in which at least one of the letters is a vowel.</p> <p>For example, ea, ay, ai, ar</p>
Split digraph	<p>Two letters, that work together to make one sound, but are separated within the word.</p> <p>For example, a-e as in made, i-e as in like,</p>
Blending	<p>Blending involves merging the sounds (phonemes) in a word together to pronounce it. This is important for reading.</p> <p>For example, SH-O-P blended reads the word SHOP.</p>
Segmenting	<p>This involves hearing a word and splitting it up into the phonemes that make it. Then using your knowledge of GPCs work out which graphemes represent those phonemes. This enables you to write the graphemes down in the right order. This is the basis of spelling.</p>

VC, CVC, CCVC WORDS	<p>The abbreviations used to describe the order of letters in words.</p> <p>VC- vowel-consonant (am) CVC- consonant-vowel-consonant (ham) CCVC- consonant-consonant-vowel-consonant (slam)</p>
High frequency words/ HFW	<p>High frequency words are words that recur frequently in print. The first 300 HFW make up 65% of all printed words.</p>
Common exception words/ tricky words	<p>Common exception words / tricky words are those words which cannot be sounded out easily. They are words where the graphemes do not make the sounds you would expect e.g was</p>