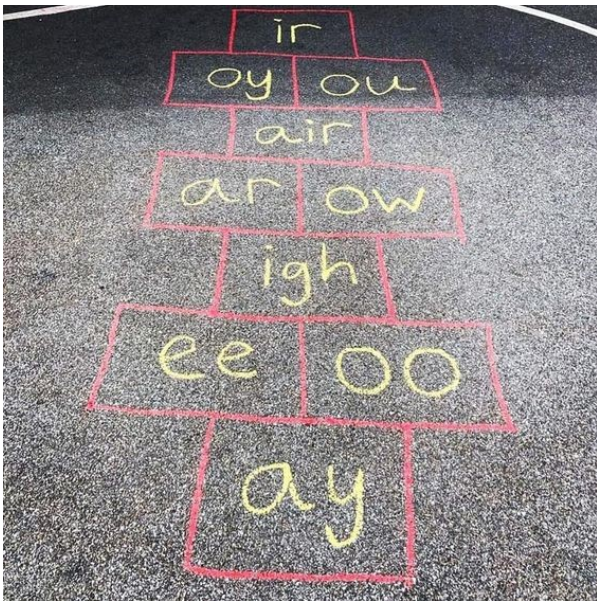


Let's Read

Reading isn't just about reading piles and piles of books (although that is super fun!). To be successful readers, children need to be confident in recognising all the different graphemes and digraphs. There are so many fun games that you can play to teach these - they won't even realise they are 'reading'! Here are some quick and easy activities for your children to practise their sounds and blending skills.



Hopscotch

Grab some chalk and draw your very own hopscotch. Write a sound in each box. Call out the sounds as you jump in each box. Exercising and phonics combined!

Word Ring Toss

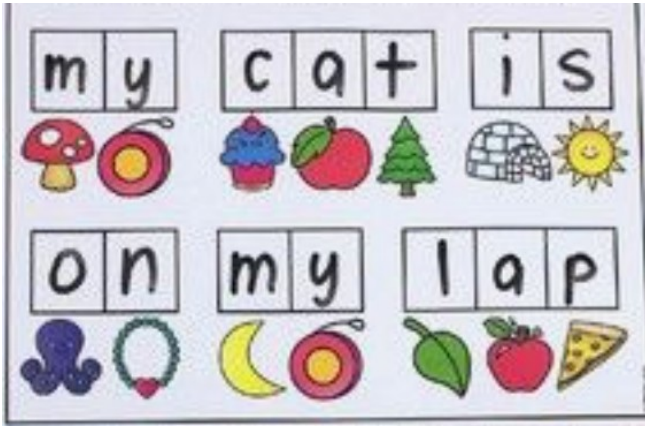
Call out a word and the child has to throw the ring over that word. You could use red word (words that aren't phonetically correct or follow the usual phonemic rule) or you could simply stick with sounds.

Don't have bottles or a ring? No worries, this game can be played with pots and a ball.



Sound Hunt

Go around the house and see how many items you can find beginning with a key sound and place them in the correct basket. Which sound can you find the most of?



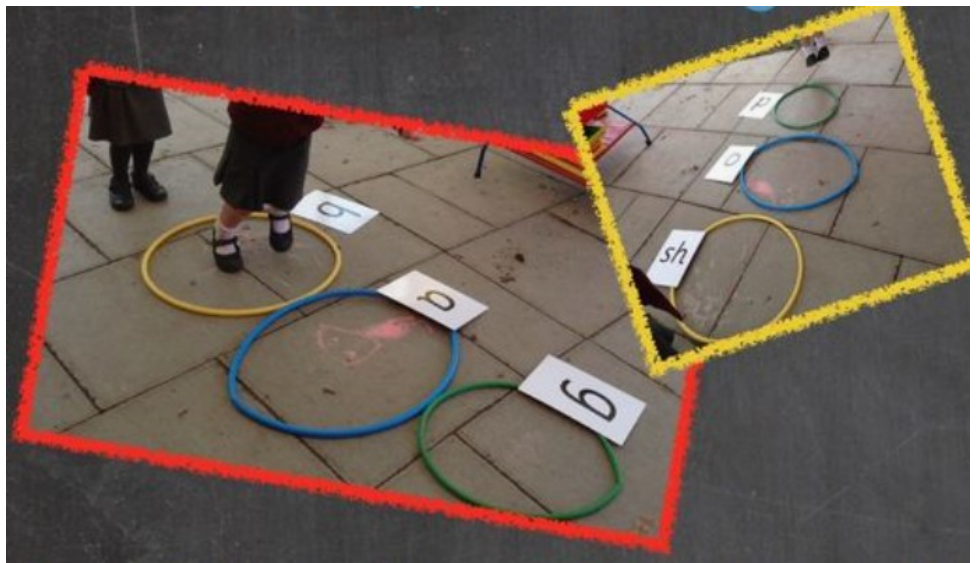
Code Breaker

Can you make your own secret coded note using picture codes for each sound? Can you see if someone in your house can crack the code? You could write a special note and email it to a friend/family member and get them to send you one back.

Blending Hoops

Place a sound in each hoop and the child must jump through each hoop and say the sound, jump quickly through and then say the word when you get to the end.

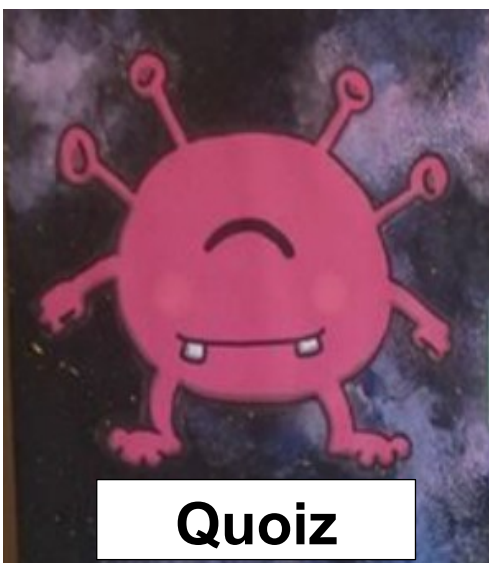
Haven't got any hoops? Use some chalks and draw some circles.



Alien Friends

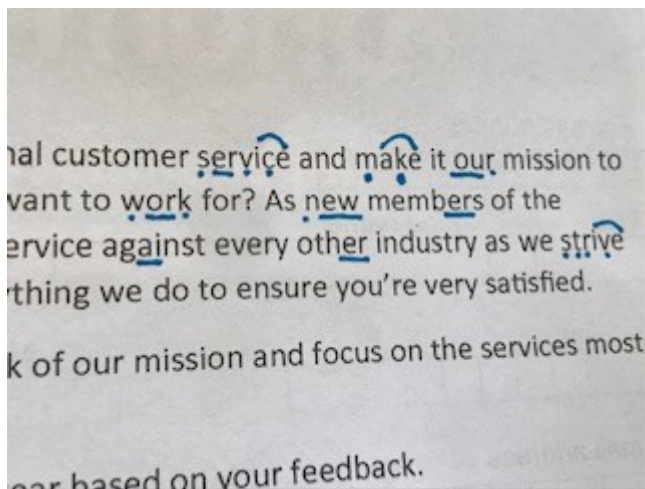
Get crafting! Design and make your very own alien friends. Give your alien friend an alien name (nonsense word.) Tell your child the name must have a certain sound in it e.g 'oi' 'sh' 'ow'

Extension - Can you add the sound buttons on to help everyone learn your alien friends name?



Bob and Obb

Meet our hungry alien friends. Bob likes to eat real words, and Obb likes to eat alien words (nonsense words.) Make a pile of real and nonsense words and let your child fill the alien's bellies.



Sound Buttons

Got some old unwanted post, a leaflet through the door, an old book? Let your child hunt through the words and see what 'special friends' (graphemes and digraphs) they can find and add sound buttons to show these.

Single sound - dot underneath

2/3 letters, 1 sound - line underneath

Split digraph (a-e, i-e etc) - holding hands over top

Sound Sort

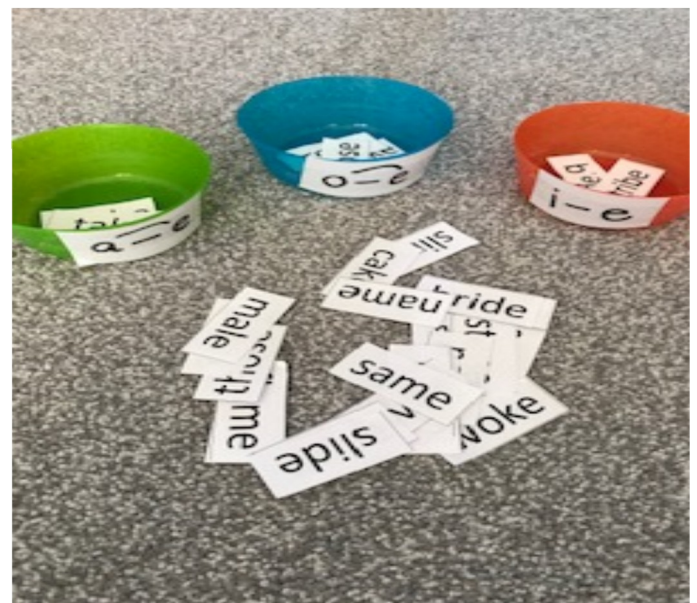
Have several pots or bowls with key sounds on. Create a pile of words for the child to read through and place in the correct sound pot.

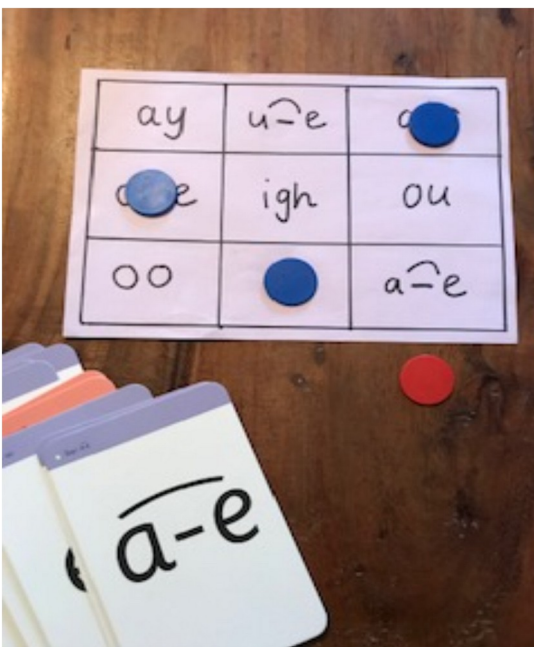
Extension - You can use this activity to help with your child's understanding of word categories such as verbs, adjectives, nouns and adverbs.

At Repton Manor we use something called Language Through Colour to help children add these words to their writing and build up their sentences:

Pink words - who, **yellow words** - what doing, **orange words** - what, **blue words** - where and **brown words** - when.

Label the pots with the colours (might be best to use plain coloured pots/ bowls to avoid confusion.) The child then has to read the word and also decipher which category it should go into.





Phonics Bingo

Make your very own bingo cards using sounds! Who will be first to get a line or the full house?

Extension – You can do this activity using words, maybe have a card concentrating on each particular sound e.g igh – flight, might, high etc

You could also use common exception words (words that don't follow the usual spelling rules) such as the, school, our, said etc.

Sound Shoot Out

Got a nerf gun or a water pistol? Just pop some tin cans or old plastic party cups on a wall with sounds on. Shout out the sound and watch them fire away. If you have more than one child, then it's 1 point to whoever hits it first. Who can get the most points?



One of the best things you can do is to read to your child. Let them play teacher and point at the words with the end of a pencil or a lolly stick. Let them not only just absorb the words but enjoy and learn how you use the punctuation to deliver expression in you reading.

Reading is also about understanding, if a child can read pages and pages completely fluently but they can't recall anything they have just read then these skills are not being used for their full purpose.

- Break it down - Just read a few pages at a time. Chat about what you have just read, what did you like? What do you think will happen next? What type of person do you think 'x' is? Ask your child if they know what certain words mean, explain to them the meaning of words that they may not have come across before.
- Make it fun - Draw me a picture of your favourite part, act out what happened so far, draw a story map of what we have read so far and then add onto it after you read the next part.

Ultimately, just read for pleasure, enjoy a story together cuddled up on the sofa or under a cosy blanket. Treasure the time together getting lost in a great book.

We have loved seeing all the amazing learning you have been emailing in so far, so please keep sending them in. If you try any of the activities, please email me a photo to your year groups inbox and let me know which one you liked best.

Tell your children that Buster says he wants you to keep up the amazing work you have been doing with your reading and he's really proud of you all.

Adults remember, you too doing are doing great job!

Best Wishes to each and every one of you.

Mrs Mannering

Busters Book Club and Home Reading Leader