

## Phase 1 Phonics

In Phase 1 of the DfE's Letters and Sounds program, children focus on developing their speaking and listening skills. They focus on listening to the sounds around them and also begin building on their segmenting and blending skills.

### Examples of the Phase 1 Phonics Program

Teaching phonics phase 1 Letters and Sounds activities are broken into seven different aspects:

Aspect 1 - Environmental Sound Discrimination

Aspect 2 - Instrumental Sound Discrimination

Aspect 3 - Body Percussion Sound Discrimination

Aspect 4 - Rhythm and Rhyme

Aspect 5 - Alliteration

Aspect 6 - Voice Sounds

Aspect 7 - Oral Blending and Segmenting

The purpose of these different aspects is to develop students' language abilities in the following ways:

Learning to listen attentively

Enlarging their vocabulary

Speaking confidently to adults and other children

Discriminating between different phonemes

Reproducing audibly the phonemes they hear

Using sound-talk to segment words into phonemes

### Phase 1 Phonics in the National Curriculum

Teaching phonics phase 1 of the Letters and Sounds program is primarily taught within the EYFS framework. There are no hard and fast standards to meet, but the above aspects of the program should be integrated into all areas of learning through a language-rich provision.

How can I help children with Phase 1 Phonics?

It is important to remember that you don't have to teach children the 7 aspects in any particular order. You can just make teaching phase 1 phonics part of your everyday activities by getting children to listen to the sounds around them.