

Glossary of phonics terms

| Fred Head & Fred Talk | Fred talk (blending)- saying each sound, also known as phoneme, in a word out loud using the pure sounds and blending them together. e.g. c-a-t- = cat Fred in your head – once the children are secure sounding out loud, we encourage them to sound out in the head to aid fluency and speed. |
|--|--|
| I you said | Red words – these cannot be sounded out fully (non-decodable). |
| at mad sad dad sat mat | Green words are linked to the sounds the children have been learning and are decodable using their phonic knowledge. |
| | Fred fingers – counting the number of sounds in a word and pinching the top of the fingers as they say the sounds. This helps with spelling words. |
| ay aw are aware aw | Special friends – This is when two (digraphs) and three (trigraphs) sounds make one sound. A split digraph is also a special friend. This is when two phonemes say one sound but are separated within the word e.g. a-e, e-e, i-e. o-e cake and pine. |
| | This helps children to understand that sounds are often grouped together within words. e.g. spr ay and light |
| at mad sad dad sat mat | Dots and dashes – a dot under a letter indicates it is a single phoneme. A dash indicates a special friend (digraph or trigraph). |
| Rossense CVC words on alen monsters Zab beb | Alien words/Nonsense words – these are decodable words (using their phonic knowledge to read the words). These words are part of the phonics screening in year 1. The children enjoy making up their own nonsense words when spelling out words. |
| Grapheme a, e, p | A grapheme is a written letter. |
| Pure sound | Pronouncing each letter sound clearly with additional sounds to the end e.g. 'f' not 'fuh'. |