

Sound Phonics Phase Four

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There are no new **graphemes** in Phase Four, but it is important to consolidate knowledge of the graphemes introduced so far and to ensure that all letters are formed correctly. Make 'little and often' practice a regular part of phonics sessions, using the activities described on page 31.

1 Revision: graphemes

You will need: *Phase Two and Phase Three sound mat* (☐); *Phase Three sound mat* (☐); *grapheme cards* (☐); *the Stepping stones game* (☐); *the Star blazer game* (☐); *counters*.

Introductory activities

- Use the 'little and often' practice activities, as described on page 31.
- Say a sound and ask the children to write the corresponding letter. Say the formation patten as they write the letter.

Sound Phonics activities (pages 4, 5, 27)

- On page 4, say a letter sound and ask the children to find and write over the letter. They can use different colours to write over the letters several times, creating 'rainbow letters'.
- On pages 5 and 27, point to the graphemes at random and ask the children to say the corresponding sound.
- The children can practise these activities in pairs, with one child taking the role of the adult.
- Those who have difficulty with letter formation can use a range of writing materials for additional practice, referring to page 4 or the *Letters* handwriting download (☐) if necessary.

Extension activities

- Use the *Phase Two* and *Phase Three sound mats* to support the children's recognition and recall of letters and graphemes when reading and writing.
- Use grapheme cards or the *Stepping stones* game to practise letter recognition. The *Star blazer* game or grapheme cards may be used to practise recognition of Phase Three graphemes.

2 Reading familiar high-frequency words

Both **decodable** and **tricky high-frequency words** need to be practised so that the children can read them automatically as early as possible. They should regularly practise reading groups of decodable high-frequency words (and familiar tricky words) as they proceed through Phase Four, so that they are able to recognise them instantly.

You will need: *blank word cards* (☐), *Against the clock cards* (☐).