

Glossary

blend	to say the separate sounds in a word and merge them together to read the whole word. Blending is the reverse of segmenting .
digraph	two letters representing one sound (for example, 'ay')
grapheme	a letter or group of letters representing a phoneme or sound in a word
grapheme-phoneme correspondence (GPC)	matching a phoneme to a grapheme , and vice versa
phoneme	the smallest unit of sound in speech
phoneme family	a group of graphemes that represent the same sound (for example, the graphemes 'ai', 'ay', and 'a-e' represent the /ai/ phoneme)
segment	to break a word into separate sounds in order to spell it. Segmenting is the reverse of blending .
sound button	a mark appearing below each letter, digraph or trigraph , which the child can touch as they say the sound
sound-talk	the process of saying, in the correct order, each separate sound in a word
split digraph	two letters representing one sound, where the letters are not right next to each other (for example, the letters 'i' and 'e' in the word 'kite' form the split digraph 'i-e')
tricky word	a word that contains a letter or a group of letters that make an unusual or unfamiliar sound or a grapheme that the children do not yet know
trigraph	three letters representing one sound (for example, 'air')