**Phonics and Reading in Nursery**

**What is phonics?**

**There has been a huge shift in the past few years in how we teach reading in UK schools. This is having a big impact and helping many children learn to read and spell. Phonics is recommended as the first strategy that children should be taught in helping them learn to read. It runs alongside other teaching methods such as Guided Reading and Shared Reading to help children develop all the other vital reading skills and hopefully give them a real love of reading**.

**Helping my child**

**Sharing what they have learned today**

**Encourage your child to tell you what they have done at Nursery today. The earlier you can get into this habit the better. Children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will have been learning songs and actions that they can show you and you can join in with. Sharing songs and rhymes is something that you can easily do when you are busy with something else e.g. cooking, cleaning, driving in the car.**

**In Nursery we focus on Phase One phonics. Typical activities for teaching Phase 1 phonics include 'listening' walks, playing and identifying instruments, action songs, learning rhymes and playing games like I Spy.**

**This phase is intended to develop children’s listening, vocabulary and speaking skills.**

**In Phase 1 phonics, children are taught about:**

* **Environmental sounds**
* **Instrumental sounds**
* **Body percussion (e.g. clapping and stamping)**
* **Rhythm and rhyme**

[**Alliteration**](https://www.theschoolrun.com/alliteration-assonance-consonance)

* **Voice sounds**

**Oral**[**blending**](https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-is-blending)**and segmenting (e.g. hearing that d-o-g makes ‘dog’).**