

WHAT IS PHONICS?

- Phonics is the idea that every word can be broken into individual sounds (phonemes), and each of those sounds can be represented by letters. It's one of the building blocks of the reading process.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Children will learn:

- Over 40 sounds and matching letters
- To 'blend' sounds to read words

This is called **decoding**

PHONEMES

- All words are made up of sounds (phonemes)
- In English there are over 40!
- Pure sounds:
- [For parents | Letters and Sounds](http://littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)
 [\(littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk\)](http://littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)
- These are all represented by GRAPHEMES (the sound written down)

BLENDING...

- Most important pre-reading skill for children to learn.
- They can *blend* orally if children can understand words spoken in sound-talk.

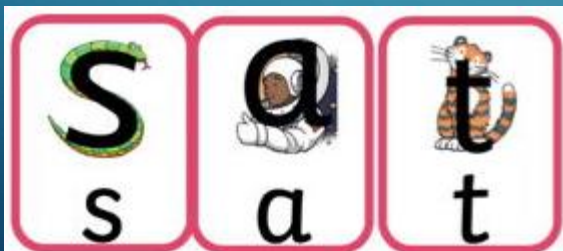
• *E.g. I can see a c-a-t / d-o-g / b-ir-d*

OR *put on your h-a-t / c-oa-t / b-oo-t-s*

Blending is needed for reading

BLENDING TO READ...

- Sometimes using the sound cards to build the words can be easier for children to read initially until they become more confident. Saying each sound as you lay the card can be less daunting than seeing the whole word and can support them in seeing how the sounds go together to make that word.



TRICKY WORDS...

- Some words your child won't be able to blend and segment – the, was, you, they etc
- These words cannot be decoded in the same way but we identify the tricky part of the word
- Support for tricky words can be found here:

For parents | Letters and Sounds
(littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD?

By...

- using pure sounds
- knowing the graphemes – use the information sheets to help you
- Reading daily – even a few minutes makes all the difference!
- Modelling blending to your child if they are struggling

AND...

- Understanding how 'sound talk' helps with reading and spelling. Have fun with it!

"Where's your c-oa-t?"

"Time for b-e-d!"

- *Stick to single syllable, 3 sounds for now, (4 when confident)*
back, head, tum, leg, foot, knee, toe, (hand)
coat, hat, zip, sock, glove, (scarf)
hop, tap, run, (clap, jump) shop, park, (school)
red, blue, white, (green, black) knife, fork, bowl, pan, cup, ham,
jam, cake, cheese, meat, soup

USEFUL RESOURCES...

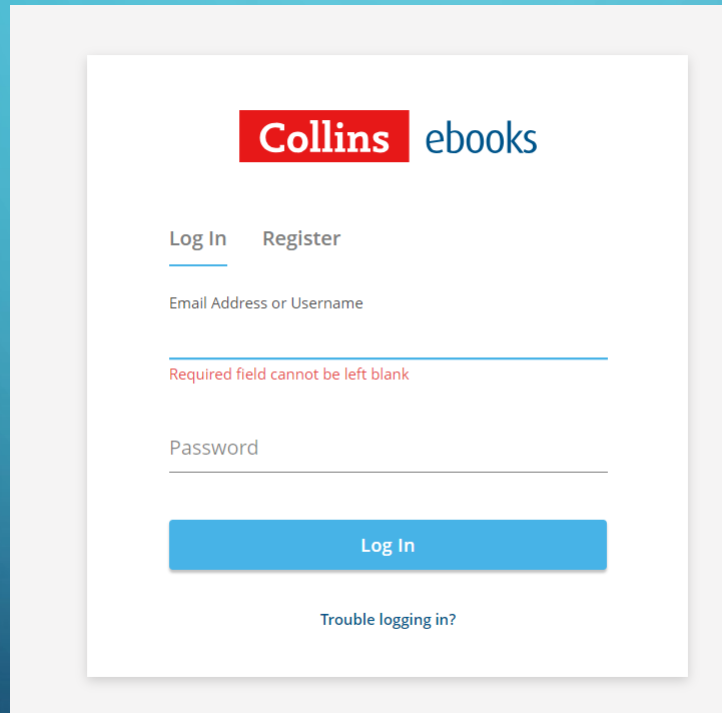
For parents | Letters and Sounds
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If you have the sound cards there are lots of ideas for fun games to play here:

[Little Wandle at Home – Collins](#)

BIG CAT BOOKS ONLINE...

Collins Ebooks (collinsopenpage.com)

A screenshot of the Collins ebooks login page. The page has a white background with a light gray border. At the top, the Collins logo (a red rectangle with the word 'Collins' in white) is followed by the word 'ebooks' in a dark blue sans-serif font. Below the logo, there are two links: 'Log In' (underlined) and 'Register'. Under 'Log In', there is a text input field labeled 'Email Address or Username'. Below this field is a red error message: 'Required field cannot be left blank'. Below the email field is a text input field labeled 'Password'. At the bottom of the form is a blue button with the text 'Log In'. Below the button is a link that says 'Trouble logging in?'.

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THANKYOU!

Happy reading!

