

# End of Year Expectations for Phonics in Reception

## By the End of Reception

An average child by the end of Reception should be able to read and write a simple sentence such as, *I went to the shops* or *The boats float on the river*, independently without support from an adult. On this page you will find information about what else we would expect from an average child by the end of Reception. However, if your child isn't yet able to achieve these goals, please do not worry. Every child develops at their own rate.

### Early Learning Goals: Reading

Children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to sound out regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common exception words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

### Early Learning Goals: Writing

Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

### Phases

At Woodthorne, we follow the Letters and Sounds phonics scheme which is broken into 6 phases. By the end of Reception, we would expect children to be secure in Phase 4, for reading and writing.

#### Phase 2, 3 and 4 Common Exception Words

**Read and write:** I, no, the, to, go, into, he, she, we, me, be, you, are, her, was, all, they, my

**Read only:** said, have, like, so, do, some, come, little, one, were, there, what, when, out

**Set 6:** j, v, w, x

**Set 7:** y, z, zz, qu

**Consonant digraphs:** ch, sh, th, ng

**Vowel digraphs and trigraphs:** ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er.

↔ **Phase 3  
sounds**

Phase 4 has  
no new  
sounds

#### Common Exception Words You can't sound them out!

Common exception words are words that we don't sound out, we teach the children to read these words by sight. There are clues, however that can help children work out what the word is. For example, the first letter in the word usually tells you the first sound in the word, although of course there are exceptions.

#### Examples of sentences to read and write

I can hear twigs snapping in the wind.  
The frog jumps in the pond and swims off.  
Can a clock get cross?  
Can you clap hands?  
He did up the zip on my jacket.  
I can dig in the sand with a bucket.  
I went in a rocket to the moon.  
Mars is a planet.  
I like to have sweets.

Phonics  
is  
Fun!

The Alphablocks pronounce phonics using the pure sounds:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fl-WbhuVOXI>

