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| Word | What does it mean? |
| Blend | Saying the individual sounds that make up a word and then merging or blending the sounds together to say the word – used when reading. |
| CVC Words | Abbreviation used for consonant-vowel-consonant words, used to describe the order of sounds. Some examples of CVC words are: cat, pen, top, chat (because ch makes one sound). Other similar abbreviations include: • VC words e.g. on, is, it. • CCVC words e.g. trap and black. • CVCC words e.g. milk and fast. |
| Digraph | Two letters which together make one sound e.g. ee, oa, ea, ch, ay. There are different types of digraph: • **Vowel digraph:** a digraph in which at least one of the letters is a vowel, for example; boat or day. • **Consonant digraph:** two consonants which can go together, for example shop or thin. • **Split digraph (previously called magic e):** two letters, which work as a pair to make one sound, but are separated within the word e.g. a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e. For example cake or pine. |
| Grapheme | Written letters or a group of letters which represent one single sound (phoneme) e.g. a, l, sh, air, ck. |
| Phoneme | A single sound that can be made by one or more letters – e.g. s, k, z, oo, ph, igh. |
| Phonics | Phonics teaches children to listen to and identify the sounds that make up words. This helps them to read and write words. |
| Pure Sound | Pronouncing each letter sound clearly and distinctly without adding additional sounds to the end e.g. ‘f’ not ‘fuh.’ |
| Segment | This is the opposite of blending (see above). Splitting a word up into individual sounds – used when spelling and writing. |
| Tricky Words | Words that are difficult to sound out e.g. said, the, because. |
| Trigraph | Three letters which go together make one sound e.g. ear, air, igh, dge, tch. |