

IN RESPONSE TO TUTOR FEEDBACK, we'd like to give you a list of helpful resources you can dip into to learn more about the teaching of phonics in Year 1 in UK primary schools. All of our TutorMate pupils are in Year 1 (5 to 6 years old).

We do appreciate that phonics is a fascinating subject and that many of you are keen to learn more. However, we don't expect our reading volunteers to become phonics experts. Your role is to enjoy reading stories with your pupil and to gently encourage them to be more fluent and confident through consistent practice.

As you review the material, please keep in mind that different schools follow specific phonics programme/schemes which may have subtle variations. The information shared here is designed to provide you with a general overview of the basics of early reading.

It all starts with literacy.

Phonics teaching is generally divided into Phases.

Phases 1 to 4. Nursery and Reception children spend time on identifying and understanding basic letter sounds and letter names.

Phase 5. Year 1 is mostly spent on Phase 5 sounds. The start of the year will include a recap of Phase 3 and 4 sounds.

Phase 6. Year 2 pupils will focus on Phase 6.

- Click [HERE](#) to learn about the order in which children learn the sound Phases and which sounds and blends are in each Phase.
- For a detailed video on the Phase 5 (Year 1 sounds), including how they are pronounced, blended and taught, click [HERE](#).
- To see some children demonstrating how they use their phonics skills to segment and blend Phase 5 sounds watch [HERE](#).
- And last, but not least, click [HERE](#) for the Department of Education Letters and Sounds 'bible' which sets out the curriculum recommendations for all of phonics teaching, from nursery to Year 2.

