

## Foundations for Phonics: Progression and planning overview

### About Foundations for Phonics

Foundations for Phonics develops children’s phonological and phonemic awareness through fun, engaging games and nursery rhymes. Developing these skills in Nursery lays the best possible foundations for learning phonics in Reception. There are two aspects to Foundations for Phonics: Rhyme time and Tuning into sounds. Rhyme time explores rhyme to build up a bank of shared language, develop children’s understanding of the world and familiarity with the sounds in words. Tuning into sounds teaches phonological and phonemic awareness through games.

Rhyme time	Tuning into sounds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach a Rhyme time session every day from the start of Autumn 1.</li> <li>• You will find all the planning and resources in the Phonics area of the Foundations programme content – click on the Rhyme time tab.</li> <li>• Rhyme time sessions can be taught in small groups or as a whole class and should take no more than three to four minutes.</li> <li>• Teach a different rhyme every one or two weeks. There are 20 rhymes to choose from. You can teach them in any order and repeat them over the year.</li> <li>• Use the Weekly plan builder to ensure you play the full range of Rhyme time games covering:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening</li> <li>• Syllables</li> <li>• Rhyming</li> <li>• Alliteration</li> <li>• Sound knowledge.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach Tuning into sounds from the start of Autumn 2. In Autumn 1, focus on Rhyme time and settling children into your setting’s routines.</li> <li>• Teach the Tuning into sounds sessions at least three times a week – daily sessions will benefit children the most. Timetable the sessions to ensure they always happen.</li> <li>• Teach the sessions in small groups. Sessions should be short and engaging and should take no more than five to six minutes. Consider using all of your staff to run these groups at the same time.</li> <li>• Below, you will find the Progression and planning overview (page 2), Tuning into sounds session template (page 3), and example words for What’s in the box?, Blend from the box and the oral blending games. Use these alongside the Weekly plan builder to plan your teaching.</li> <li>• Follow the session template to ensure you include all four aspects of Tuning into sounds:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn the sound: What’s in the box?</li> <li>• Practise the sound: Sound game</li> <li>• Blend with the sound: Blend from the box</li> <li>• Practise blending: Oral blending games.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Tuning into sounds: Progression and planning overview

Term	Progression of sounds	Sound focus	Oral blending focus
<b>Autumn 1</b>	No sounds – focus on Rhyme time and settling children into your setting's routines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teach one sound each week, in the order listed on the left. (The terms are provided as a guide only – teach the sounds in order according to your setting's calendar.)</li> <li>In each session, play:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What's in the box? (Learn the sound)</li> <li>One of these sound games: Voice sounds, Name play, Bertha the bus, Play with sounds (Practise the sound).</li> </ul> </li> <li>The sound games focus on awareness of sounds in general, and words do not need to include the focus sound from the day's session.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In each session, play:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blend from the box (Blend with the sound)</li> <li>One of these oral blending games: Can you do the actions? Can you touch your ... ? What's that noise? (Practise blending)</li> </ul> </li> <li>The oral blending games focus on awareness of sounds in general, and oral blending words do not need to include the focus sound from the day's session.</li> </ul>
<b>Autumn 2</b>	s a t p i n m		
<b>Spring 1</b>	d g o c k e		
<b>Spring 2</b>	u r h b f l		
<b>Summer 1</b>	j v w y z q u c h		
<b>Summer 2</b>	ck x sh th ng nk		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See the Tuning into sounds session template for an overview of the session.</li> <li>See the Tuning into sounds prompt cards for details of each game.</li> </ul>			