

# Phonics screening check 2014 scoring guidance



## Threshold mark

The threshold mark for the phonics screening check will be available on the Department for Education's website [www.education.gov.uk/ks1](http://www.education.gov.uk/ks1) after Monday 30 June 2014.

If children do not meet the expected standard, schools must determine the most appropriate support for these children to help them catch up. These children must be considered for a re-take of the phonics screening check in the June of Year 2.

## Pronunciation of pseudo-words

Some of the graphemes used in the check represent a number of different phonemes. When decoding a real word in the check, the child has to select the correct phoneme for the word, for example the 'ow' in 'blow' should not be pronounced as the 'ow' in 'cow'. However, when decoding a pseudo-word, all plausible alternative pronunciations are acceptable.

The tables on the next page provide guidance to teachers scoring the check on acceptable pronunciations of the pseudo-words in the check.

## Regional pronunciations

Some of the pseudo-words in the screening check contain vowel digraphs that end with 'r', such as 'ar'. In a small number of regional dialects, the 'r' in words with these vowel digraphs is voiced and children who speak with these dialects will be known to their teachers. For these children, pseudo-words with a vowel digraph ending in 'r', such as 'flarm' may be pronounced as /ðɑ:rd/ or /θɑ:rd/ instead of /ðɑ:d/ or /θɑ:d/. These pronunciations are acceptable alternatives in the relevant pseudo-words.

### Contact details

For more information about the phonics screening check, please contact the national curriculum assessments helpline on 0300 303 3013 or email [assessments@education.gov.uk](mailto:assessments@education.gov.uk).

## Section 1

Pseudo-word	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
<b>vol</b>	This item uses the 'v' from 'vet' and rhymes with 'doll'.	/vɒl/
<b>teg</b>	This item uses the 't' from 'tip' and rhymes with 'peg'.	/tɛg/
<b>jat</b>	This item uses the 'j' from 'job' and rhymes with 'cat'.	/dʒæt/
<b>ind</b>	This item combines the 'i' from 'ill' and the 'nd' from 'end'.	/ɪnd/
<b>tull</b>	This item uses the 't' from 'time' and rhymes with 'cull'. All regional pronunciations of the 'u' are acceptable.	/tʌl/ or /tu:l/
<b>shog</b>	This item uses the 'sh' from 'sheep' and rhymes with 'fog'.	/ʃɒg/
<b>foid</b>	This item uses the 'f' from 'fine' and rhymes with 'void'.	/fɔɪd/
<b>thard</b>	This item uses either the 'th' from 'this' or the 'th' from 'thin' and rhymes with 'shard'.	/ðɑ:d/ or /θɑ:d/
<b>frem</b>	This item uses the 'fr' from 'frog' and rhymes with 'them'.	/frɛm/
<b>cloin</b>	This item uses the 'cl' from 'climb' and rhymes with 'join'.	/klɔɪn/
<b>bulm</b>	This item combines the 'bul' from 'bulb' and the 'm' from 'mask'. All regional pronunciations of the 'u' are acceptable.	/bʌlm/ or /bu:lm/
<b>harnd</b>	This item uses the 'har' from 'harsh' and ends with the 'nd' from 'stand'.	/hɑ:nd/

## Section 2

Pseudo-word	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
<b>jair</b>	This item uses the 'j' from 'joke' and rhymes with 'lair'.	/dʒɛə/
<b>clain</b>	This item uses the 'cl' from 'clip' and rhymes with 'plain'.	/kleɪn/
<b>yewn</b>	This item uses the 'y' from 'yes' and rhymes with 'strewn'.	/ju:n/
<b>tabe</b>	This item uses the 't' from 'tile' and rhymes with 'babe'.	/teɪb/
<b>clisk</b>	This item uses the 'cl' from 'close' and rhymes with 'whisk'.	/klɪsk/
<b>thrand</b>	This item uses the 'thr' from 'throw' and rhymes with 'sand'.	/ðrænd/ or /θrænd/
<b>strad</b>	This item uses the 'str' from 'strike' and rhymes with 'sad'.	/stræd/
<b>scroy</b>	This item uses the 'scr' from 'scream' and rhymes with 'boy'.	/skrɔɪ/