

KEY STAGE

1

JUNE

2012

# Year 1 phonics screening check 2012 scoring guidance

**Standards and  
Testing Agency**

An executive agency of the  
Department for Education

## Threshold mark

The threshold mark for the test is **32 marks** out of 40.

Children who score between 32 and 40 marks have met the expected standard in phonic decoding.

Children who score between 0 and 31 marks have not met the expected standard in phonic decoding.

If children do not meet the expected standard, schools must determine the most appropriate support for each child 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 Year 1 phonics screening check represent a number of different phonemes. When decoding a real word in the screening 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 in the screening check, all plausible alternative pronunciations are acceptable.

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

### 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>pib</b>	This item uses the 'p' from 'pig' and rhymes with 'nib'	/pɪb/
<b>vus</b>	This item uses the 'v' from 'van' and rhymes with 'bus' All regional pronunciations of the 'u' are acceptable	/vʌs/ or /vʊs/
<b>yop</b>	This item uses the 'y' from 'yes' and rhymes with 'hop'	/jɒp/
<b>elt</b>	This item uses the 'e' from 'elk' and rhymes with 'felt'	/ɛlt/
<b>desh</b>	This item uses these 'd' from 'desk' and rhymes with 'mesh'	/dɛʃ/
<b>chab</b>	This item uses the 'ch' from 'change' and rhymes with 'dab'	/tʃæb/
<b>poil</b>	This item uses the 'p' from 'point' and rhymes with 'foil'	/pɔɪl/
<b>queep</b>	This item uses the 'qu' from 'queen' and rhymes with 'creep'	/kwi:p/
<b>stin</b>	This item uses the 'st' from 'still' and rhymes with 'tin'	/stɪn/
<b>proom</b>	This item uses the 'pr' from 'proof' and rhymes with 'broom' All regional pronunciations of the 'oo' are acceptable	/pru:m/ or /prʊm/
<b>sarps</b>	This item uses the 's' from 'sardine' and rhymes with 'harps'	/sɑ:ps/
<b>thend</b>	This item uses either the 'th' from 'this' or the 'th' from 'thin' and rhymes with 'bend'	/ðɛnd/ or /θɛnd/

## Section 2

Pseudo-word	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
<b>kigh</b>	This item uses the 'k' from 'kick' and rhymes with 'high'	/kaɪ/
<b>girst</b>	This item uses the 'g' from 'girl' and rhymes with 'first'	/gɜ:st/
<b>baim</b>	This item uses the 'b' from 'bait' and rhymes with 'aim'	/beɪm/
<b>yune</b>	This item uses the 'y' from 'yule' and rhymes with 'June'	/ju:n/
<b>flods</b>	This item uses the 'fl' from 'flog' and rhymes with 'pods'	/flɒds/
<b>groiks</b>	This item uses the 'gr' from 'groin' and rhymes with 'oiks'	/grɔɪks/
<b>strom</b>	This item uses the 'str' from 'strong' and rhymes with 'prom'	/strɒm/
<b>splaw</b>	This item uses the 'spl' from 'split' and rhymes with 'saw'	/splɔ:/