



# Chestnut Lane Phonics Dictionary

Children will be introduced to some of the following terminology in phonics lessons:

<b>Adjacent consonants</b>	two or more consonants next to each other in a word (e.g. <b>hand</b> , <b>stop</b> , <b>spring</b> ). Beware! They are <b>not digraphs</b> as they make <b>separate, distinct sounds</b> .
<b>Blending</b>	recognising the letter sounds in a written word e.g. c-u-p and merging or <b>synthesising</b> them in the order in which they are written to pronounce the word e.g. 'cup' used for <b>reading</b>
<b>Buttons • and Bars —</b>	buttons are used to show where <b>one</b> letter makes <b>one</b> sound (s, a) bars are used where <b>two or more</b> letters make <b>one</b> sound (ch, igh)
<b>CVC</b>	<b>C</b> onsonant/ <b>V</b> owel/ <b>C</b> onsonant
<b>Decodable words</b>	words that can be read using phonic knowledge e.g. it, and, but
<b>Digraph</b>	two letters that make one sound a consonant digraph contains 2 consonants (e.g. <b>ch</b> , <b>ck</b> , <b>th</b> , <b>ng</b> , <b>ll</b> ) a vowel digraph contains at least 1 vowel (e.g. <b>ai</b> , <b>ee</b> , <b>oa</b> , <b>oo</b> )
<b>Grapheme</b>	a written representation of a phoneme (the letter, or letters representing the sound)
<b>Phoneme</b>	smallest unit of speech sound (the sound)
<b>Polysyllabic</b>	words with more than one syllable
<b>Pure sounds</b>	enunciating the phoneme in the purest sound possible e.g. <b>sssssss</b> not suh or <b>c</b> not cuh
<b>Quadgraph</b>	four letters that make one sound e.g. <b>igh</b> (as in <b>eight</b> ) <b>ough</b> (as in <b>caught</b> )
<b>Segmenting</b>	identifying the individual sounds in the spoken word (e.g. him = h-i-m) and writing down letters for each sound in the word used for <b>spelling</b>
<b>Split digraph</b>	a digraph in which the letters making the sound are not next to each other (e.g. <b>make</b> , <b>kite</b> )
<b>Syllable</b>	a unit of pronunciation, children are encouraged to identify the number of syllables in words in Phase 4 e.g. chim / pan / zee
<b>Tricky words (Common Exception Words)</b>	words that <b>cannot</b> be read using phonic knowledge and have to be learnt/memorised using other strategies e.g. <b>we</b> , <b>said</b> , <b>what</b> as children progress through the Phases, words that were once <b>tricky</b> will become <b>decodable</b> .
<b>Trigraph</b>	three letters that make one sound ( <b>igh</b> <b>ear</b> <b>air</b> <b>ure</b> )