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Orrets Meadow

Phonics Programme

(Revised December 2021)

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|  |  | **Letter** | **Sound** | **Context Word** | **Consonant Clusters** | **Type of letter or sound** | **Spelling rules** |
| Level 1 | **Set 1** | s | /s/ | sock |   | consonant | Often mispronounced. |
| a | /a/ | apple |   | short vowel |   |
| t | /t/ | ten | st | consonant | Often mispronounced. |
| p | /p/ | pig | sp | consonant | Often mispronounced. |
| **Set 2** | i | /i/ | igloo |   | short vowel |   |
| n | /n/ | nest | sn | consonant |   |
| m | /m/ | man | sm | consonant |   |
| d | /d/ | dog |   | consonant |   |
| **Set 3** | g | /g/ | goat |   | consonant |   |
| o | /o/ | octopus |   | short vowel |   |
| c | /k/ | cup | sc | consonant | The next vowels are usually o, a or u (using e or i after will make a soft sound). If the next sound is a consonant it is nearly always a c. |
| k | /k/ | kite | sk, nk | consonant | The next letters are usually i, e or y. At the end of a word it follows a long vowel sound or aconsonant. |
| **Set 4** | ck | /k/ | duck |   | digraph | Used at the end of a monosyllabic word and follows a short vowel sound. |
| e | /e/ | elephant |   | short vowel |   |
| u | /u/ | umbrella |   | short vowel |   |
| r | /r/ | rat | cr, pr, gr, dr, tr, scr, spr, str | consonant |   |
| **Set 5** | h | /h/ | hat | shr | consonant | Often mispronounced. |
| b | /b/ | bat | br | consonant |   |
| f | /f/ | fish | fr, | consonant | Mouth closed and front teeth out to make this sound. (Bunny teeth) |
| l | /l/ | log | bl, cl, fl, gl, pl, sl, spl | consonant | Tongue should touch the top of the mouth. |
| (+ll) | /l/ | hill |   |   | **Floss Rule -** If a one-syllable word has only one vowel and ends in f, l or s, double the last letter. |
| (+ss) | /s/ | floss |   |   |
| (+ff) | /f/ | cliff |   |   |

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| **Level 2** | **Set 1** | j | /j/ | jam |   | consonant |   |
| v | /v/ | van |   | consonant | English words hardly ever end with the letter v, so if a word ends with a /v/ sound, the letter e usually needs to be added after the ‘v’. |
| w | /w/ | web | sw | consonant |   |
| x | /ks/ | box |   | consonant |   |
| **Set 2** | y | /y/ | yellow |   | consonant |   |
| z | /z/ | zip |   | consonant |   |
| (+zz) | /z/ | buzz |   |   | **Floss Rule** - If a one-syllable word has only one vowel and ends in z double the last letter. |
| qu | /kw/ | queen | squ | combined phoneme |   |
| ch | /ch/ | chair |   | digraph |   |
| **Set 3** | sh | /sh/ | ship |   | digraph |   |
| th | /th/ | mother |   | digraph (voiced) | Tongue placed between teeth to make the noise. |
| th | /th/ | thimble |   | digraph (unvoiced) |
| ng | /ng/ | king |   |   |   |
| **Set 4** | bl |   | black |   | consonant cluster |   |
| cl |   | clap |   | consonant cluster |   |
| fl |   | flag |   | consonant cluster |   |
| gl |   | glass |   | consonant cluster |   |
| pl |   | plum |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sl |   | sloth |   | consonant cluster |   |
| br |   | brush |   | consonant cluster |   |
| cr |   | crop |   | consonant cluster |   |
| dr |   | drum |   | consonant cluster |   |
| fr |   | frog |   | consonant cluster |   |
| gr |   | grub |   | consonant cluster |   |
| pr |   | prong |   | consonant cluster |   |
| **Set 5** | tr |   | truck |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sc |   | scan |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sk |   | mask |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sm |   | smile |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sn |   | snack |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sp |   | spin |   | consonant cluster |   |
| sw |   | swim |   | consonant cluster |   |
| st |   | stop |   | consonant cluster |   |
| nk |   | sink |   | consonant cluster |   |

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|  |  | **Letter** | **Sound** | **Context Word** | **Type of letter or sound** | **Spelling rules** |
| **Level 3** | **Set 1** | \_s |   | cats | plural suffix | Add \_s to most nouns to make them plural. |
| \_es |   | glasses | plural suffix | Add \_es to nouns that end in ch, sh, s, x or z. |
| \_ing |   | playing | suffix | –ing and –er always add an extra syllable to the word and –ed sometimes does. The past tense of some verbs may sound as if it ends in /ɪd/ (extra syllable), /d/ or /t/ (no extra syllable), but all these endings are spelt –ed. If the verb ends in two consonant letters (the same or different), the ending is simply added on. |
| \_ed |   | walked | suffix |
| \_er |   | painter | suffix |
| \_est |   | strongest | suffix |   |
| Doubling rule: If a word has 1 syllable, ends in a consonant and has a vowel before that final consonant double the final consonant. The letter x is an exception to this. |
| **Set 2** | a-e | /a-e/ | cake | split digraph |   |
| i-e | /i-e/ | kite | split digraph |   |
| o-e | /oe/ | rope | split digraph |   |
| e-e | /ee/ | even | split digraph |   |
| u-e | /yoo/ | cube | split digraph | Can be pronounced either /yoo/ or /oo/ depending on the letter that comes before the vowel. ch, d, j, l, r, or s will say /oo/ t can say either sound except for a few words which can only be pronounced /oo/. All other letters will say /yoo/. |
| u-e | /oo/ | flute | split digraph |
| **Set 3** | s | /z/ | nose | voiced sound | When the letter ‘s’ is after a vowel, another ‘s’, or a voiced consonant, it is pronounced as a /z/ sound. |
| tch | /ch/ | watch | trigraph | The /ch/ sound is usually spelt as tch if it comes straight after a short vowel letter. Exceptions: rich, which, much, such. |
| ai | /a-e/ | rain | vowel digraph | The digraph ai is virtually never used at the end of English words. |
| oi | /oi/ | coin | vowel digraph | The digraph oi is virtually never used at the end of English words. |
| ay | /a-e/ | play | digraph | ay and oy are used for those sounds at the end of words and at the end of syllables. |
| **Set 4** | oy | /oi/ | boy | digraph |
| ar | /ar/ | car | digraph |   |
| ee | /ee/ | tree | vowel digraph |   |
| igh | /i-e/ | light | trigraph |   |
| **Set 5** | oa | /oe/ | boat | vowel digraph | This sound is very rarely at the end of a word. |
| oo | /oo/ | book | vowel digraph (short) |   |
| oo | /oo/ | moon | vowel digraph (long) |   |
| or | /or/ | horse |   |   |
| er | /ur/ | fern | stressed sound |   |
| un\_ |   |   | prefix |   |
| i | /i\_e/ | mind | long vowel sound | i - followed by two consonants |

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|  |  | **Letter** | **Sound** | **Context Word** | **Type of letter or sound** | **Spelling rules** |
| **Level 4** | **Set 1** | er | /Ə/ | under | unstressed sound (schwa) |   |
| ir | /ur/ | bird |   |   |
| ur | /ur/ | turtle |   |   |
| ow | /ou/ | brown |   |   |
| ere | /air/ | there |   |   |
| **Set 2** | air | /air/ | hair |   |   |
| ure |   | secure |   |   |
| ea | /e/ | bread | vowel digraph |   |
| ea | /a\_e/ | steak | long vowel sound | medial sound |
| ou | /ou/ | mouth | vowel digraph |   |
| ie | /i-e/ | tie | vowel digraph |   |
| **Set 3** | ea | /ee/ | beach |   |   |
| ow | /oe/ | snow |   |   |
| aw | /aw/ | crawl |   |   |
| wh | /w/ | whistle |   | At the start of question words wh is used. Others are learnt from sight. |
| ew | /yoo/ | few |   | Can be pronounced either /yoo/ or /oo/ depending on the letter that comes before the vowel. ch, d, j, l, r, or s will say /oo/t can say either sound except for a few words which can only be pronounced /oo/. All other letters will say /yoo/. |
| ew | /oo/ | flew |   |
| **Set 4** | au | /au/ | sauce |   |   |
| ear | /ear/ | near |   |   |
| ear | /ur/ | earth |   |   |
| are | /air/ | share |   |   |
| oe | /oe/ | toe |   |   |
| ie | /ee/ | field |   |   |
| **Set 5** | ue | /oo/ | clue | vowel digraph (short) | Can be pronounced either /yoo/ or /oo/ depending on the letter that comes before the vowel. ch, d, j, l, r, or s will say /oo/ t can say either sound except for a few words which can only be pronounced /oo/. All other letters will say /yoo/. |
| ue | /yoo/ | tissue |   |
| \_y | /e/ | happy |   |   |
| ph | /f/ | dolphin |   |   |
| ey | /ee/ | monkey |   | The plural of these words is formed by the addition of –s |
| ore | /or/ | shore |   |   |

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| **Level 5** | **Set 1** | scr |   | scrum | consonant cluster |   |
| spr |   | spring | consonant cluster |   |
| spl |   | splash | consonant cluster |   |
| str |   | string | consonant cluster |   |
| shr |   | shrug | consonant cluster |   |
| squ |   | squid | consonant cluster |   |
| ere | /ear/ | here |   |   |
| eer | /ear/ | steer |   |   |
| **Set 2** | g | /j/ | giant | soft g sound | In other positions in words, the /j/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and y. The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o and u |
| c | /s/ | ice | soft c sound | The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y |
| \_ge | /zh/ | cage | soft g sound | After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /j/ sound is spelt as –ge at the end of a word. |
| kn | /n/ | knee | silent letters  |   |
| gn | /n/ | gnome | silent letters  |   |
| gu | /g/ | guide |   | u follows the g in many words in order to separate the e or i in order to keep the g with a hard sound. |
| wr | /r/ | write | silent letters  |   |
| rh | /r/ | rhino |   |   |
| **Set 3** | \_dge | /j/ | bridge | final sound | The letter j is never used for the /j/ sound at the end of English words. At the end of a word, the /j/ sound is spelt –dge straight after short vowel sounds. |
| \_le | /Əl/ | smile |   | The –le spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words. |
| \_el | /Əl/ | camel |   | The –el spelling is used after m, n, r, s, v, w and more often than not after s. |
| \_al | /Əl/ | hospital |   |   |
| \_il | /Əl/ | pencil |   |   |
| \_y | /i\_e/ | fly |   | This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words |
| **Suffix rule:** Change the y to i before the suffix is added, except for -ing  |
| **Set 4** | **Drop the e rule:** The –e at the end of the root word is dropped before –ing, –ed, –er, –est, –y or any other suffix beginning with a vowel |
| oar | /or/ | board |   |   |
| oor | /or/ | door |   |   |
| our | /or/ | four |   |   |
| st | /s/ | listen |   |   |
| gh | /g/ | ghost |   |   |

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| **Level 6** | **Set 1** | gh | /f/ | laugh |   |   |
| ou | /oo/ | soup |   |   |
| a | /aw/ | ball |   | The /aw/ sound is usually spelt as a before l and ll. |
| o | /u/ | dove |   | The letter ‘o’ can make the short ‘u’ sound. Often before a ‘v’, ‘n’ or ‘th’. |
| **Set 2** | a | /o/ | water |   | a is the most common spelling for the /o/ (‘hot’) sound after w and qu. |
| ar | /or/ | war |   | ar generally makes the /or/ sound after a w. |
| or | /ur/ | world |   | or generally makes the /ur/ sound after a w. |
| s | /zh/ | treasure |   |   |
| **Set 3** | \_ment |   | equipment |   | If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words.Exceptions:(1) argument(2) root words ending in –y with a consonant before it but only if the root word has more than one syllable.  |
| \_ness |   | darkness |   |
| \_ful |   | peaceful |   |
| \_less |   | thoughtful |   |
| **Set 4** | \_ly |   | clearly |   |
| \_tion |   | station |   |   |
| Contractions and possessive apostrophes |

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|  |  | **Letter** | **Sound** | **Context Word** | **Type of letter or sound** | **Spelling rules** |
| **Level 7** | **Set 1** | ou | /u/ | young |   |   |
| y | /i/ | pyramid |   | The letter ‘y’ can make a short ‘i’ sound within words. They tend to be less common words |
| dis- |   | disagree | prefix | This prefix has a negative meanings. |
| mis- |   | misbehave | prefix | This prefix has a negative meanings. |
| in- |   | incorrect | prefix | The prefix in– can mean both ‘not’ and ‘in’/‘into’. |
| **Set 2** | il- |   | illegible | prefix | Before a root word starting with l, in– becomes il. |
| im- |   | immature | prefix | Before a root word starting with m or p, in– becomes im–. |
| ir- |   | irregular | prefix | Before a root word starting with r, in– becomes ir–. |
| re- |   | refresh | prefix | re– means ‘again’ or ‘back’ |
| sub- |   | submarine | prefix | sub– means ‘under’ |
| **Set 3** | inter- |   | interact | prefix | inter– means ‘between’ or ‘among’ |
| super- |   | superstar | prefix | super– means ‘above’. |
| anti- |   | antidote | prefix | anti– means ‘against’. |
| auto- |   | autograph | prefix | auto– means ‘self’ or ‘own’. |
| \_ation |   | information | suffix | The suffix –ation is added to verbs to form nouns. The rules already learnt still apply. |
| **Set 4** | \_ly |   |   | suffix | The suffix –ly is added to an adjective to form an adverb. The rules already learnt still apply |
|   |   |   |   | The suffix –ly starts with a consonant letter, so it is added straight on to most root words |
|   |   |   |   | Exceptions: (1) If the root word ends in –y with a consonant letter before it, the y is changed to i, but only if the root word has more than one syllable. |
|   |   |   |   | (2) If the root word ends with –le, the–le is changed to –ly. |
|   |   |   |   | (3) If the root word ends with –ic, –ally is added rather than just –ly, except in the word publicly.  |
| **Set 5** | \_sure | /zh/ | measure | suffix | The ending sounding like /zh/ is always spelt –sure. |
| \_ture | /ch/ | picture | suffix | The ending sounding like /ch/ is often spelt –ture, but check that the word is not a root word ending in (t)ch with an er ending |
| \_sion | /si/ | television | word ending |  |

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| **Level 8** | **Set 1** | \_ous |   | dangerous |   | Sometimes the root word is obvious and the usual rules apply for adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters. –our is changed to –or before –ous is added. A final ‘e’ of the root word must be kept if the /j/ sound of ‘g’ is to be kept. If there is an /i/ sound before the –ous ending, it is usually spelt as i, but a few words have e. |
| \_tion | /shun/ | action |   | This is the most common spelling of this sound. It is used if the root word ends in t or te |
| \_sion | /shun/ | extension |   | as a suffix –sion is used if the root word ends in d or se.  |
| \_ssion | /shun/ | admission |   | Used if the root word ends in ss or -mit |
| \_cian | /shun/ | magician |   | Used if the root word ends in c or cs |
| **Set 2** | ch | /k/ | school |   | Greek in origin |
| ch | /sh/ | chef |   | French in origin |
| \_gue | /g/ | tongue |   | French in origin |
| \_que | /k/ | antique |   | French in origin |
| sc | /s/ | science |   | Latin in origin |
| **Set 3** | ei | /a\_e/ | veil |   |   |
| eigh | /a\_e/ | weigh |   |   |
| ey | /a\_e/ | grey |   |   |
| Possessive apostrophe with plural words  |
| qu | /k/ | mosquito |   |   |

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| **Level 9** | **Set 1** | \_cious | /shus/ | vicious | suffix | If the root word ends in -ce this sound is usually spelt as c |
| \_tious | /shus/ | cautious | suffix | ‘tious’ is often used if the root word would take the suffix ‘tion’ in its noun form. |
| \_cial |   | artificial |   |   |
| \_tial |   | initial |   |   |
| \_ant |   | substance |   | Use –ant and –ance/–ancy if there is a related word with a /a/ or /a\_e/ sound in the right position; –ation endings are often a clue. |
| **Set 2** | \_ance |   |   |
| \_ancy |   |   |
| \_ent |   | innocent |   | Use –ent and –ence/–ency after soft c, soft g and qu, or if there is a related word with a clear /e/ sound in the right position. |
| \_ence |   |   |
| \_ency |   |   |
| **Set 3** | \_able |   | adorable | The –able/–ably endings are far morecommon than the –ible/–ibly endings. | The –able ending is usually but not always used if a complete root word can be heard before it, e.g. understandable |
| \_ably |   | adorably |   |
| \_ible |   | horrible | The –ible ending is common if a complete root word can’t be heard before it but it also sometimes occurs when a complete word can be heard (e.g. sensible). |
| \_ibly |   | horribly |   |
| \_fer |   | transferred |   | The r is doubled if the –fer is still stressed when the ending is added. The r is not doubled if the –fer is no longer stressed. |
| **Set 4** | Use of the hyphen: Hyphens can be used to join a prefix to a root word, especially if the prefix ends in a vowel letter and the root word also begins with one. |
| The ‘i before e except after c’ rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is /i:/. |
| ough | /uff/ | rough |   | ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds. |
| /off/ | cough |   |   |
| /oe/ | dough |   |   |
| /ou/ | plough |   |   |

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| **Level 10** | **Set 1** | su | sh | sugar |   | Sugar, sure and sumac are the only three root words in Modern English with this at the beginning, but historically there were others. |
| eau | /yoo/ | beauty | trigraph | French origin |
| eau | /oe/ | plateau | trigraph | French origin |
| psy | /s/ | psychology | trigraph | In these words, the**p** is silent, but the**s** is pronounced. |
| i | /y/ | onion |   |   |
| ui | /oo/ | fruit |   |   |
| **Set 2** | ui | /w/ | penguin |   |   |
| a | /a\_e/ | apron |   | a makes a long vowel sound at the end of a syllable  |
| u | /u\_e/ | unicorn |   |   |
| eu | /yoo/ | feud |   |   |
| augh | /au/ | taught |   |   |
| ei | /i\_e/ | eiderdown |   |   |
| **Set 3** | mb | /m/ | lamb |   |   |
| mn | /m/ | Autumn |   |   |
| p | / | receipt |   |   |
| bt | /t/ | doubt |   |   |
| lm | /m/ | calm |   |   |
| s | / | island |   |   |