

Assuring high quality phonic work – snapshot self-assessment form

The self-assessment below provides a snapshot of how this product meets the core criteria for a high quality phonics programme. For more detailed information on how this product meets each of the core criteria, please see the detailed form.

Name of product: *Project X Phonics*

Is this a full, stand alone phonics teaching programme or a supplementary resource or group of resources?

A supplementary resource

Please explain briefly how the product should be used in teaching.

Project X Phonics is the 100% decodable phonics component of Project X, the innovative reading programme designed to raise reading standards for all children.

Project X Phonics is a pick-up-and-go synthetic phonics resource for practice and consolidation, matched to the progression of Letters and Sounds.

Project X Phonics offers high quality systematic phonics work that helps children practise and consolidate the concepts and skills they learn in the daily whole class phonics session. In the early stages of learning to read children have most success when supported by an adult and Project X Phonics is designed for group and independent work with the integral teaching notes ensuring high quality synthetic phonics teaching and learning .

It is important for children to practise sounding and blending skills using books and resources that focus specifically on the letters and sounds they have learned in the daily phonics lesson. Therefore Project X Phonics resources are decodable and clearly match the progression of Letters and Sounds, making it easy to provide appropriate reading practice for each child, and keep them all on track with their letters and sounds.

This product:	Tick to confirm
presents high quality systematic, synthetic phonic work as the prime approach to decoding print, i.e. a phonics 'first and fast' approach	✓
enables children to start learning phonic knowledge and skills using a systematic, synthetic programme by the age of five, with the expectation that they will be fluent readers having secured word recognition skills by the end of key stage one	✓
is designed for the teaching of discrete, daily sessions progressing from simple to more complex phonic knowledge and skills and covering the major grapheme/phoneme correspondences	✓
enables children's progress to be assessed	✓
uses a multi-sensory approach so that children learn variously from simultaneous visual, auditory and kinaesthetic activities which are designed to secure essential phonic knowledge and skills	✓
demonstrates that phonemes should be blended, in order, from left to right, 'all through the word' for reading	✓
demonstrates how words can be segmented into their constituent phonemes for spelling and that this is the reverse of blending phonemes to read words	✓
ensures that children apply phonic knowledge and skills as their first approach to reading and spelling even if a word is not completely phonically regular	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensures that children are taught high frequency words that do not conform completely to grapheme/phoneme correspondence rules 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides fidelity to the teaching framework for the duration of the programme, to ensure that these irregular words are fully learnt 	✓
Ensures that, as pupils move through the early stages of acquiring phonics, they are invited to practise by reading texts which are entirely decodable for them, so that they experience success and learn to rely on phonemic strategies.	✓

Please explain how your product meets the core criteria above.

Project X Phonics is a Phases 1 – 4 systematic synthetic phonics practice resource with training, which consolidates the phonics skills learnt in the daily phonics lesson and is fully aligned to *Letter and Sounds*.

Project X Phonics combines the best of *Project X* with a rigorous synthetic phonics structure. The expertise of Series Consultants Anne Cameron, Jennifer Chew and Linda Tallent guarantee a tried-and-tested approach to phonics teaching – with blending and segmenting taught as reversible processes. All *Letter and Sounds* high frequency words are included, and the teaching methodology guarantees that blending a word from left to right is the first approach used.

Using a see-saw approach in the decodable readers, children experience motivating and meaningful text being read to them, and then experience the success of reading the decodable text themselves - children are hooked into reading whilst applying their phonic skills from the start.

With integrated assessment to keep all children on track with their phonics, this is the perfect resource for group work or one-to-one teaching.

With a multi-sensory approach embedded throughout the resource, every child in the classroom is catered for, while the rigour of the phonics teaching remains at the heart of the programme.

Please provide a brief explanation of what your product provides, e.g. resources, training etc

Project X Phonics offers a rich mix of **resources** to make phonics engaging, and keep everyone on track with their letters and sounds:

- 3 *Exploring Sounds* books to develop listening and language skills through talk, rhyme, songs and games
- 11 *Exploring Letters* books that focus on specific letter and sounds
- 26 100% decodable fiction and non fiction readers
- 72 colour Activity Cards with multi-sensory activities and games to consolidate learning, linked to every lesson
- A Teaching Handbook with phonics progression assessment records to track the progress of each child and show any areas which need extra consolidation
- **Training** in systematic synthetic phonics available with Debbie Hepplewhite, Phonics Consultant, programme writer and teacher trainer. Professional Development is available as INSET, Cluster events, and Local Authority events. Additional expert support is on www.oxfordprimary.co.uk
- Free online resources and advice for **parents**: www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Contact details

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Assuring high quality phonic work – Detailed self-assessment form

This second self assessment form gives schools and settings detailed and expanded information about this product, set against each core criterion.

Name of product:

Project X Phonics

Please explain how your product meets the following core criteria:

This product presents high quality systematic, synthetic phonic work as the prime approach to decoding print by:

- *PX Phonics* is 100% aligned to the phonic progression of *Letters and Sounds*, and presents rigorous synthetic phonics practise through sounding out and blending words for reading and segmenting words for spelling.
- The *Exploring Sounds* books use pictures, songs, rhymes, games and stories to support the development of listening skills, oral language and confidence in hearing sounds.
- The *Exploring Letters* books provide specific, targeted practise of the letters and sounds taught in the daily phonics session. The embedded teaching notes ensure that the phonic activities are always practised effectively and consistently, whether supported by a teacher, teaching assistant or parent.
- The *fiction and non fiction readers* are 100% decodable and supported by activities that allow children to practise and consolidate the phonic knowledge and skills they have learnt.
- The approach is multi-sensory, with lots of opportunities for revision and consolidation, with engaging and motivating content.

- This product enables children to start learning phonic knowledge and skills using a systematic, synthetic programme by the age of five, with the expectation that they will be fluent readers having secured word recognition skills by the end of key stage one by:
From Phase 1 through to Phase 4, the systematic approach and engaging content ensures phonic knowledge is embedded and that children are hooked into reading.
- Has an approach that appeals to young children, and has a proven pace, progression and teaching methodology provided by the expertise of the *PX Phonics Consultants*
- Offers a supportive bridge between phonics instruction and independent reading – ensuring that children have early success and build confidence quickly. *Project X Phonics* helps children practise and consolidate the concepts and skills they learn in the whole class daily phonics lesson. Practise in between the daily phonics session is vital to ensure each child can embed their learning.
- All the books have teaching notes, support and activity ideas embedded so that books can be used effectively by teachers, teaching assistants and parents helping keep all children on track.

This product has been designed for the teaching of discrete, daily sessions progressing from simple to more complex phonic knowledge and skills and covering the major grapheme/phoneme correspondences by:

- *Project X Phonics* is organised into Phases and Sets which correspond to the structure of *Letters and Sounds*.
- Phase 1: *Exploring Sounds* books cover early speaking and listening skills
- Phases 2 and 3: the grapheme-phoneme correspondences (GPCs) are covered as they appear in Sets 1 to 7 of *Letters and Sounds*.
- A further three sets (8 to 10) have been added to *Project X Phonics* to cover consonant digraphs and vowel digraphs in Phase 3 of *Letters and Sounds*.
- Phase 4: the resources are divided into two sets. Children will have learned most of the letter sounds but need to consolidate and apply them to longer words and different spelling patterns. Each set introduces different 'tricky words' from Phase 4 *Letters and Sounds*.
- Adjacent consonants are introduced into *Project X Phonics* earlier than Phase 4, as children can cope with this before they learn digraphs.

This product enables children's progress to be assessed by:

- The teaching notes embedded on each page of the *Project X Phonics* books are an essential ongoing part of the assessment loop, for checking children's understanding on a daily basis and using that knowledge to inform next steps.
- *Project X Phonics* enables the regular assessment of all children's progress through the provision of **Phonic Progression Assessment Records** for Phases 1 – 4. Teachers can understand the progress each child is making and help to place the children in appropriate groups if ability groups are used. Children's letter knowledge and ability to segment and blend can be assessed individually.
- The **Phonic Progression Assessment Records** are designed to help teachers track each child and see how they are developing, and show at a glance any areas which need extra practice and reinforcement. This information can be fed back into the planning process for the next steps for each child.

This product uses a multi-sensory approach so that children learn variously from simultaneous visual, auditory and kinaesthetic activities which are designed to secure essential phonic knowledge and skills by:

Project X Phonics understands the importance of a multi-sensory approach for teaching phonics and supports this through;

- Providing opportunities for 'Talk' to develop speech and language skills through pictures, songs, rhymes and games.
- Providing a story text for the adult to read first, to allow the children to hear action-packed lively stories.
- Providing activities for children to 'design and make' which is essential to embed the learning for many children.
- Providing engaging **Activity Cards** which provide multi-sensory creative activities to revise and reinforce letters and sounds and the three core skills of blending, segmenting and writing introduced in the main lesson. The simple, yet effective creative activities include using actions, making the noises, air writing, finger tracing, using magnetic letters, playing simple word games and drawing. The activities are focussed, quick and easy for the teacher to do, and embed the day's learning.

This product demonstrates that phonemes should be blended, in order, from left to right, 'all through the word' for reading by:

- *Project X Phonics* providing specific targeted practice of phoneme blending taught in the daily phonics lesson.
- The embedded teaching notes are carefully worded to ensure that phonemes should be blended, in order, from left to right, all through the word ensuring that phonic activities are always practised effectively and consistently, whether supported by teachers, teaching assistants or carers.
- The use of Sound Talk (to say the individual sounds that make up a word) ensures that children can recognise the phonemes and blend the sounds together from left to right throughout *Project X Phonics*.
- *Project X Phonics* offers help and advice for teachers on blending : www.oxfordprimary.co.uk/projectx
- *Project X Phonics* offers help and advice for parents on blending at : www.oxfordowl.co.uk

This product demonstrates how words can be segmented into their constituent phonemes for spelling and that this is the reverse of blending phonemes to read words by:

- *Project X Phonics* providing specific targeted practice of segmenting for spelling as taught in the daily phonics lesson.
- Segmenting for spelling is supported through activities in the decodable reading books which start with 'sound-talk' (i.e. hear becomes h-ear). Then the children are asked to blend the sounds together and say the word (i.e. h-ear becomes hear). Then the children are asked to write the word *hear* – using magnetic letters, a whiteboard or a pencil and paper. This allows children to understand that words can be segmented into their constituent phonemes for spelling
- The *Activity Cards* further support this through focussed spelling activities which practise identifying the correct letters needed to write a word. This is demonstrated by the children 'sound-talking' a word to match a picture, and then segmenting into their constituent phonemes for spelling.

This product ensures that children apply phonic knowledge and skills as their first approach to reading and spelling even if a word is not completely phonically regular by:

- At the heart of *Project X Phonics*' teaching methodology is the belief that children should apply their blending skills to all words, decoding the words as far as their phonic knowledge will allow.
- The teaching notes embedded with the books encourage the children to sound-talk as much of the word as they can, and then advises the adult to help the child with the tricky part of the word. This ensures the application of grapheme-phoneme correspondence, guarantees that blending a word from left to right is the first approach used by children, and embeds the recognition of essential high frequency tricky words.

This product ensures that children are taught high frequency words that do not conform completely to grapheme/phoneme correspondence rules by:

- *Project X Phonics* covers all the high frequency words included in Letters and Sounds – both irregular and regular.
- At the heart of *Project X Phonics*' teaching methodology is the belief that children should apply their blending skills to all words, decoding the words as far as their phonic knowledge will allow.
- The high frequency words are repeated throughout the books to ensure that children have high exposure to them and they are fully learnt.

This product provides fidelity to the teaching framework for the duration of the programme, to ensure that these irregular words are fully learnt by:

- Ensuring full coverage of the *Letters and Sounds* tricky words within *Project X Phonics*, with fidelity to the synthetic phonics strategy of blending a word from left to right, together with exposure to the irregular words through the series.
- When a text contains a tricky word, the teaching advice is to encourage the child to sound-talk as much of the word as they can, and then for the adult help them with the tricky parts. For example, the word 'come' – *Point out the tricky sound in the word (i.e. the letter e is silent) and ask the child to blend the rest of the word.*
- These tricky words are repeated throughout the programme to ensure the child has exposure to these words and that they are fully learnt.

This product ensures that, as pupils move through the early stages of acquiring phonics, they are invited to practise by reading texts which are entirely decodable for them, so that they experience success and learn to rely on phonemic strategies by:

- *Project X Phonics* provides 100% decodable books fully aligned to *Letters and Sounds*:
 - 3 *Exploring Sounds* books – Phase 1 resources to develop listening and speaking skills
 - 11 *Exploring Letters* books – aligned to Phases 2 – 4 of *Letters and Sounds* with specific targeted practice of the letters and sound taught in the daily whole class phonics lesson.
 - 26 decodable readers – consolidation of letters and sounds taught with 100% decodable text with embedded teaching notes. Children can start to experience reading success from the beginning of *Letters and Sounds* Phase 2 as the story is carried by the text read by the adult, and the child reads the decodable text in speech bubbles, captions or short sentences practising their reading skills and enjoying success and confidence.
 - 72 Activity Cards – with games and activities to consolidate phonics learning that children will love
 - Free online advice for parents: www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Please provide a brief explanation of what your product provides, e.g. resources, training etc

***Project X Phonics* provides;**

- 3 *Exploring Sounds* books – essential Phase 1 resources to develop listening and speaking skills
- 11 *Exploring Letters* books – aligned to Phases 2 – 4 of *Letters and Sounds* with specific targeted practice of the letters and sound sounds taught in the daily whole class phonics lesson.
- 26 decodable readers – consolidation of letters and sounds taught with 100% decodable text with embedded teaching notes.
- 72 activity cards – with multi-sensory games and activities to consolidate phonics learning that children will love
- Free online advice for teachers: www.oxfordprimary.co.uk/projectx
- Free online resources and advice for parents: www.oxfordowl.co.uk
- Synthetic Phonic training with Debbie Hepplewhite – INSET; cluster events or Local Authority events can be organised.

