



PRACTICE PACK · PHONICS

Phonics Screening Check Practice

England national curriculum · Year 1 · screening check format

Every June, Year 1 children read 40 words one-to-one with their teacher — half real words, half made-up "alien words" that test pure sound-blending. This pack is built to the real check's shape: the same two sections, the same page layout, the same mix of word types page by page. Every word here is original.

How to run it (5–10 minutes, one-to-one)

- Show **one page at a time** — in the real check the child never sees the next page.
- Before each page, say what it is: *"These are real words"* or *"These are alien words — names for imaginary creatures."* The creature picture is the clue.
- Give about **10 seconds a word**. No rush — the check is untimed.
- A word only counts if it is **blended into one word** — sounding out "c-a-t" without saying "cat" doesn't score. Don't say whether each word was right.
- If your child corrects themselves, the **last** attempt counts.
- Score on the last page. The pass mark moves a little each year — it was 31 of 40 in 2026 and 32 the year before — so treat the score as a snapshot, never a verdict.

In this pack

1. **Practice page** — run it together first, so the format feels familiar.
2. **The check** — 10 pages, 4 words each: Section 1 (simpler sounds), then Section 2 (harder patterns).
3. **Score sheet** — tick as you go, then see which sound patterns to practise next.



Two real words, then two alien words — just to learn how it works.

mat

shed



ib



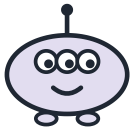
dat



Alien words — say to your child: "These are names for imaginary creatures."



thuth



saff



trom



rosk



Alien words — say to your child: "These are names for imaginary creatures."



vorp



flek



vist



enk



Alien words — say to your child: "These are names for imaginary creatures."



shoon



dred



ront



von



Real words — say to your child: "These are real words."

huff

fork

hand

spot



Real words — say to your child: "These are real words."

lock

moon

dark

feet



Alien words — say to your child: "These are names for imaginary creatures."



plewnt



thross



slownd



chownd



Alien words — say to your child: "These are names for imaginary creatures."



spreap



spownt



flawss



scralt



Real words — say to your child: "These are real words."

blend

burnt

pilot

brighter



Real words — say to your child: "These are real words."

trust

float

drift

whisk



Real words — say to your child: "These are real words."

magnet

torches

night

storm



TICK EACH WORD READ CORRECTLY

Section 1

1	thuth	alien	
2	saff	alien	
3	trom	alien	
4	rosk	alien	
5	vorp	alien	
6	flek	alien	
7	vist	alien	
8	enk	alien	
9	shoon	alien	
10	dred	alien	
11	ront	alien	
12	von	alien	
13	huff	real	
14	fork	real	
15	hand	real	
16	spot	real	
17	lock	real	
18	moon	real	
19	dark	real	
20	feet	real	
Section 1 total			

Section 2

21	plewnt	alien	
22	thross	alien	
23	slownd	alien	
24	chownd	alien	
25	spreap	alien	
26	spownt	alien	
27	flawss	alien	
28	scralt	alien	
29	blend	real	
30	burnt	real	
31	pilot	real	
32	brighter	real	
33	trust	real	
34	float	real	
35	drift	real	
36	whisk	real	
37	magnet	real	
38	torches	real	
39	night	real	
40	storm	real	
Section 2 total			

Total _____ / 40

Tricky alien words? Their spelling patterns show which sounds to practise — section 2 uses harder patterns (vowel teams, magic-e, clusters) than section 1.