

# How to use the Magnetic Letters



A E I O U oo ow silent Tricky



## Background to Monster Phonics

Monster Phonics is an award-winning multi-sensory phonics programme. Our approach has received excellent testimonials from professional in UK and international schools. Our wonderful resources give teachers powerful new tools to teach phonics. Indeed, our products are listed by the DfE as effective multi-sensory synthetic phonics resources (2014). Find out more at [monster-phonics.com](http://monster-phonics.com).

Different to any other scheme, Monster Phonics uses colour to consistently code for key graphemes in English. Colour shows children how to pronounce the most difficult aspects of reading. It is unique in that it uses character (monster) phoneme cues and colour coding to represent the long vowel sounds, silent letters and tricky letters. With Monster Phonics, spellings are more memorable and learning to read and spell becomes exciting and fun!

The innovative colour-coding system dramatically accelerates learning to read and spell. It is the only scheme that uses colour-coding for sound and audio-visual cues (monsters) to bring phonics teaching to life.

Monster Phonics best supports children with dyslexia because it is by far the most multisensory scheme available. Visual learners benefit from the visual memory of colour in words. EAL learners have pronunciation support for every word that they learn.

Monster Phonics highlights the existence of the open syllable spelling of long vowels A, E, I, O and U, such as in be, no, apron, open, me which many young learners misspell.

Monster Phonics is fully compatible with all other schemes. We are passionate about changing the life chances of all children.



Yellow I



Miss Oh No



Brown Owl



Black Cats

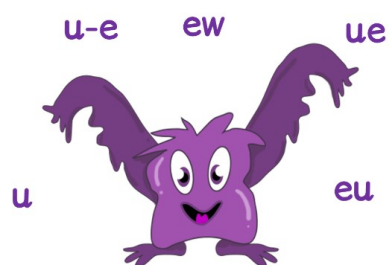
A E I O U



Angry Red A



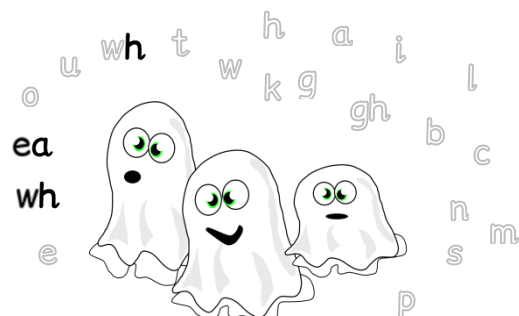
Green Froggy



U-Hoo



Cool Blue



Ghosts



Tricky Witch

At the heart of this system is the unique application of colour to consistently code for

### Long vowels

A (red) E (green) I (yellow) O (pink) U (purple) oo (blue)  
ow (brown)

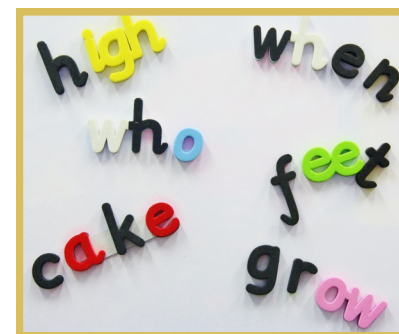
### Silent letters (white)

**Tricky letters** (gold) which make a different sound to what has been taught. For example, the 'a' in 'want' makes an 'o' sound. They do not show grapheme-phoneme correspondence.

Phonetic letters (black)

Each sound/colour is also linked to a monster, creating highly effective audio-visual cues. Each monster makes the same sound as the graphemes of the same colour. E.g. Angry Red A says 'Ay, Ay, Ay'. This helps children to remember that the long A graphemes make the long A sound. For the silent white letters, the sound cue is 'Put your fingers to your lips. Ghost letters make no sound.' For Tricky letters, the sound cue is 'Tricky Witch has cast a spell and has changed the sounds which you know well, what is the sound?'

Backed by extensive linguistic research, Monster Phonics makes sense of the peculiarities of the English language. Colour is the key which unlocks the mysteries of the English. However, there is more to this approach.



A

ay ai ei

eigh

a-e

a

ea

ey



Angry Red

rain made

day

so

go

to

you

out

have

your

are

what

the

is

of

as

his

was

said

saw

no

don't

do

into

down

asked

could

some

were

here

there

their

all

her

little

one

look

oh

old

too

now

when

come

called

looked

Mr

Mrs

of

# First 100 High Frequency Words

a	up	will
in	had	back
it	this	from
on	went	him
for	not	get
at	then	just
and	mum	got
but	them	put
that	dad	help
with	big	if
can	it's	off
they	day	make
came	made	
he	be	very
she	me	people
we	see	
I	like	time
my	by	I'm



Green Froggy

happy dream

tree

I

i-e

y

igh

ie

i

y-e



Yellow I

my

time

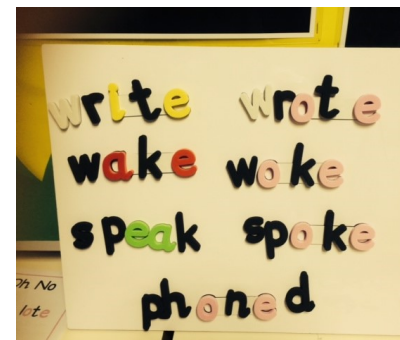
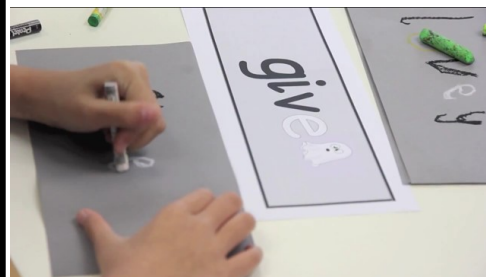
tidy

## Multi-sensory Monster Phonics

Spelling can be reinforced by learning whole words through 3D word 'building' using playdough or Monster Phonics Bendy Letters.

Writing words in Monster Phonics colours also supports phonics and spelling. Use a variety of media: paint, pastels, chalk, felt-tips, gel pens, iPad drawing apps or whiteboard pens/whiteboards.

We believe children learn best when given an appropriate multisensory learning diet.





## How to use Monster Phonics Colour-Coded

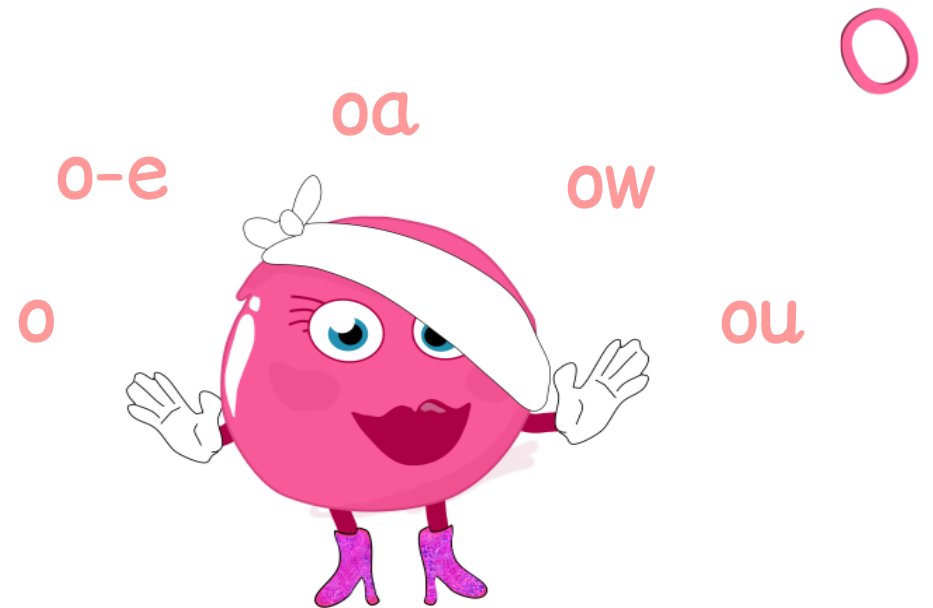
### Magnetic Letters

Start by using the magnetic letters to build simple words, either high frequency words or phonic patterns. Highlight the features of each word, pointing out the silent letters, tricky letters and long vowels. Talk about the sound that each grapheme makes, using the monster sounds to support.

Holding, touching and moving physical letters employs multiple senses supporting memory. Encourage learners to say the letters sounds and names and read the word. Make and remake, noticing interesting features about the shape of the word. For example, 'want' has a letter 'a' that is making an 'o' sound; 'friend' has a silent 'i'; 'most' has the long 'O' sound. This also supports the correct pronunciation of words.

After making a word, ask the learner to feel each letter with their fingers (eyes closed). Now ask them to 'see' the word in their head. With eyes still closed and not touching the letters, ask them to verbally recall the spelling.

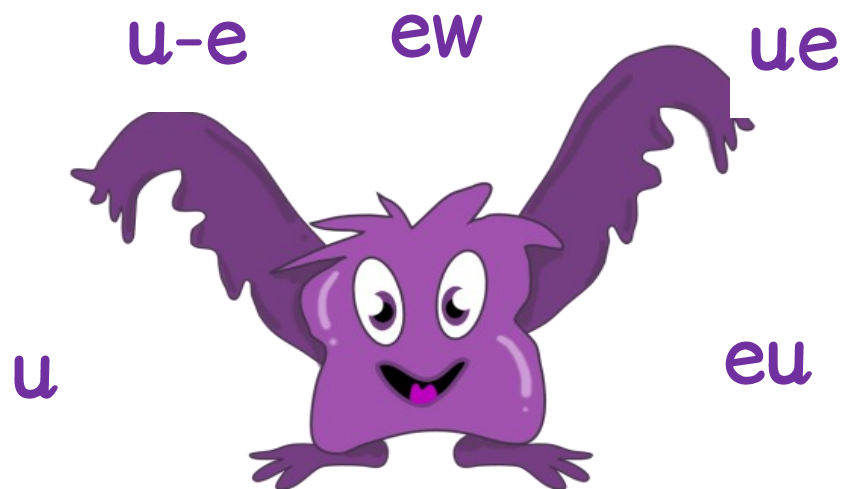
Children with reading difficulties may confuse letters for their reversed counterparts (e.g. d, b, p, q). This type of confusion is impossible with magnetic letters as they will only be attracted to the magnetic whiteboard one way.



Miss Oh No

soap note

row only



# U-Hoo

cute      few

uniform

# Phonetic



# Black Cats

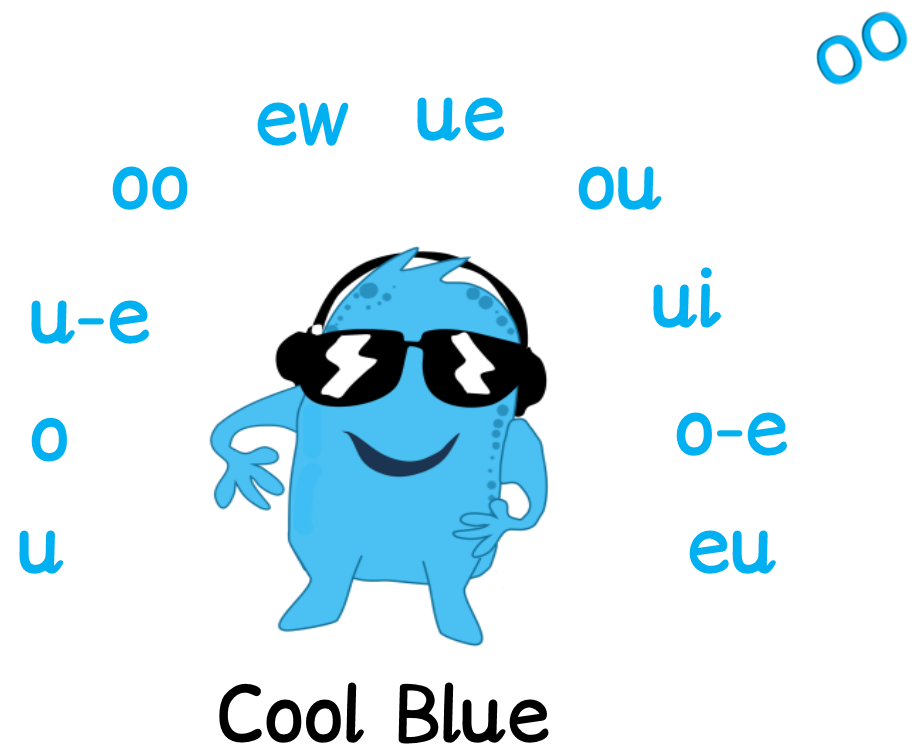
went and  
cat



Tricky Witch

want said

love



room fruit

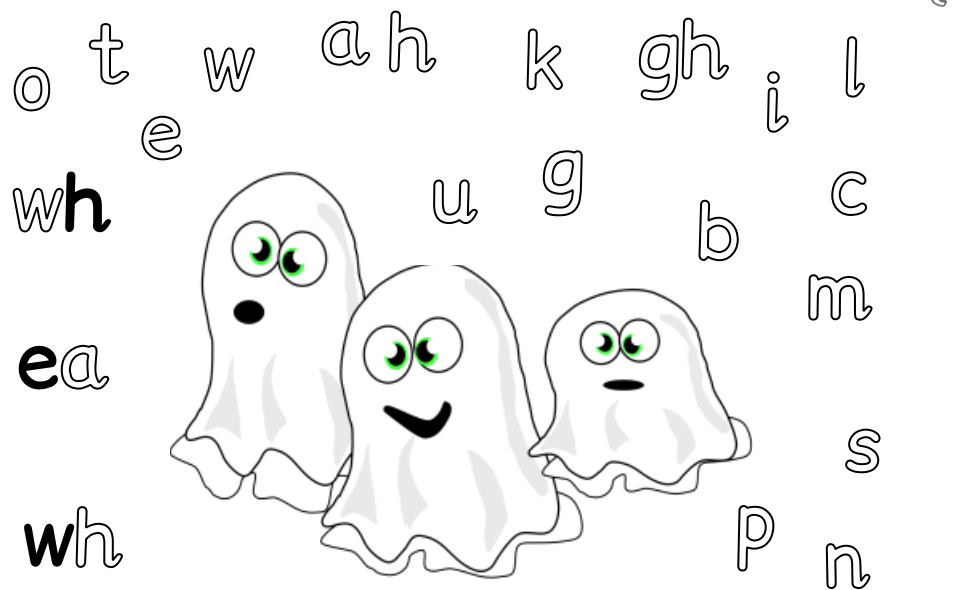
group

ow



Brown Owl

down out



Ghosts

when friend  
know