

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the page, creating a modern, layered effect. The rest of the page is a plain white background.

Phonics

November 2020

What is phonics?

- ▶ Phonics is learning the different sounds that are used to make up words in the English language
- ▶ There are 44 phonemes (different sounds) that are used to make up all of the words in the English language
- ▶ There are different ways of writing these sounds - graphemes
- ▶ We teach phonics systematically so that children build up their knowledge of the different phonemes and graphemes so that they can read and write.

Why do we teach phonics?

- ▶ It has been proven that following a systematic program of phonics helps children to read and write confidently and successfully
- ▶ Some words aren't phonically decodable - we teach strategies for these tricky words
- ▶ Knowing the names of the letters of the alphabet is also important - we talk about those as the names of the letters

What scheme do we use?

- ▶ We follow Letters and Sounds to teach phonics - it shows the order to teach the sounds in so that the children are being exposed to the most common spelling for each sounds and the sounds that they are going to meet more often e.g. s is our first sound
- ▶ We also enrich this with other resources - online videos and games

Phonics Terminology



Phoneme → The smallest unit of sound

Grapheme → The written form of a phoneme (1-4)

Digraph → A 2 letter grapheme for 1 sound

Trigraph → A 3 letter grapheme for 1 sound

Vowel → a, e, i, o, u

Consonant → All letters that are not vowels

Vowel digraph → 2 vowels to make 1 sound

Consonant digraph → 2 consonants to make 1 sound

Syllable → Unit of pronunciation with 1 vowel sound

Split digraph → 2 vowels split by a consonant

Schwa → An 'uuh' sound

Pure sound → Clear pronunciation, no schwa

CVC → Consonant, vowel, consonant

CCVC → Consonant, consonant, vowel, consonant

Pure Sounds

a

Pure Sounds

b

Pure Sounds

C

Pure Sounds

Alternative sounds

c

k

ck

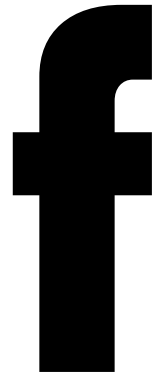
Pure Sounds

d

Pure Sounds

e

Pure Sounds



Pure Sounds

g

Pure Sounds

h

Pure Sounds



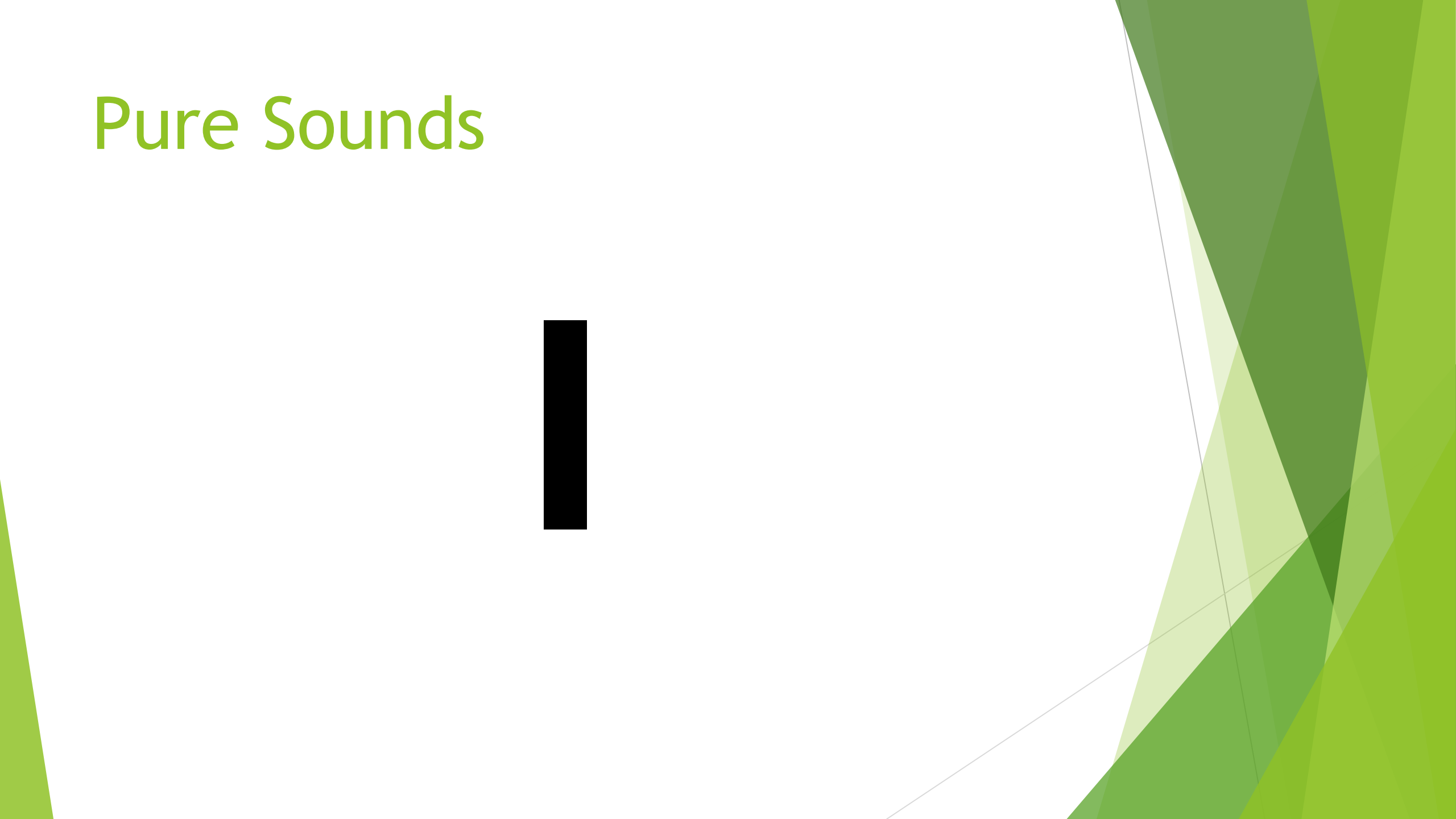
Pure Sounds



Pure Sounds

k

Pure Sounds



Pure Sounds

m

Pure Sounds

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Pure Sounds

q

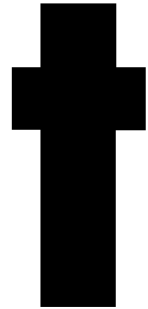
Pure Sounds

r

Pure Sounds

S

Pure Sounds



Pure Sounds

U

Pure Sounds

v

Pure Sounds

w

Pure Sounds

X

Pure Sounds

y

Pure Sounds

Z

Sound buttons

cat.

Sound buttons

h **i** **l**
• • —

Phoneme Frame

d	o	g
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How do we teach it?

- ▶ The sounds that we learn are split into phases.
 - ▶ Phase 1 - recognising sounds
 - ▶ Phase 2 - mostly single letter sounds
 - ▶ Phase 3 - less common single letter sounds, digraphs
 - ▶ Phase 5 - alternative graphemes, split digraphs
- ▶ Revisit, teach, practise, apply
- ▶ Segment and blend
- ▶ Tricky words
- ▶ Alphabet

PHASE PROGRESSION

PHASE 2

s a t p u n m d
g o c k ck e u r h
b f ff l ll ss

PHASE 3

j v w x y z zz qu ch
sh th th ng ai ee igh oa
oo oo ar or ur ow ol ear air
ure er

PHASE 5

ay ou ie ea oy ir ue aw
wh ph ew oe au a-e e-e
i-e o-e u-e

What resources do we use?

- ▶ Letters and Sounds
- ▶ Phonics Play
- ▶ Videos e.g. Geraldine the Giraffe
- ▶ Flashcards
- ▶ Sound Mats
- ▶ Lots of different letters in the environment

How can you help at home?

- ▶ Encourage children to use phonic strategies when reading
- ▶ Practise the sounds at home
- ▶ Watch Geraldine the Giraffe and Alphablocks
- ▶ Point out writing in the environment - signs, labels etc.