

Tricky words (also called 'sight words') are words that the children learned off by heart because they can't be sounded out. For example, 'she' is a tricky word because if you sound out s-h-e and blend the 3 sounds together you don't get the word 'she'.

-Here are some tricky words that your child can learn if they're getting on well with the phonics readers. They may know some of the words from school. If they're finding the readers hard, then it would be best to continue concentrating on the readers and not do the tricky words.

What to do?

Download, print and cut out only the orange word cards from the 'Tricky Word Flashcards' file attached to Blog notes. (*If you've no access to a printer just write them out on pieces of paper or card.)

Go through the words with your child until they start to know the words quickly when you show them. You can simply go through them one at a time OR you can ask them "show me _____" OR you can put them on the table and get them to slap a certain word with their hand. Alternatively, you could write the words on Lego blocks and make a word tower or stick labels with each word on toy cars and race the cars to see which tricky word wins... choose whatever works for you! 😊

-Another nice way to practise is to use this song on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0>

-If your child is finding it hard, pick out 3 tricky words and only work on these, then when they know them you can add more.

-After a few weeks you might want to move on to the purple Phase 3 words in the same file, but only move on if your child knows the orange words very well and can read them quickly. There is no pressure for children to know these this year, we've just added them for optional extra work.