

Module Ten: Part 2

b) Aspects of phonics to avoid

To be able to evaluate various aspects of phonics teaching which are better avoided to increase teaching clarity, consistency and effectiveness

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ASPECTS OF PHONICS TEACHING TO CONSIDER

Avoid:

- activities which are taking up a **disproportionate** amount of time compared to their 'gains'
- **unnecessary elaboration** or protraction of mnemonic theme
- activities which **don't progress** systematically enough and are not focused on core skills

Avoid:

- **illegal** spellings for phonics games:
e.g. **slanck glorck**
- spending precious time on 'drawing information out' (very time-consuming)
(e.g. **Instead** - quickly **provide** the word banks, sentences and texts to read, spell and write)

Avoid using letter names for reading and early spelling:

'see, ay, tee spells cat' X

Avoid references such as:

'that letter says its name' X

Avoid talking about '*silent letters*' X

'Silent letters'

e.g. **kn gn wr mb ps**

What about ? **igh ee ie ai ow**

All the graphemes **are code for** the sounds.

Root **ALL** the spelling alternatives in **THE CODE**.

Routine: Say the word slowly, **tally the identified sounds to graphemes** in the word.