



How do the monsters work?

The monsters add context. That is what is key with this programme. Rather than just saying for example that 'ai' makes the 'a' sound we are able to add a back story.

Angry A is responsible for all the 'a' sounds and he will turn them red. So in words like train we see the ai sound and Angry A will change the ai red so we know it's an Angry A sound.



Why are the monsters so important, is it the colour?

Both the colour and the monster are important because both add context and engage the learner. Children learn about the monsters back stories, where they live what they do in the magical land of Monster Phonics. It's a hook that is hard to not be mesmerised by. Suddenly learning to read isn't just being told a selection of letters make a sound without no rhyme or reason, instead the children are taken into this fantasy land where their favourite monsters take responsibility for how words are read. Reading words suddenly becomes engaging, imaginative and most importantly colourful.

Imagine pronouncing the following word:

aieeigh

We can see various ways the word could be decoded but it is not certain as it's unfamiliar. The sounds could be pronounced in different ways.

aieeigh

It is now easier to read as we know red is Angry 'a'

green is Green Froggy 'e' and yellow is Yellow 'i'

After some practise with the colours children start to see the Monster without the colour thus being able to read more fluently.

Should I colour code everything they read at home?

Children who are working on Monster phonics will only ever take a Monster Phonics book home, ensuring they have consistency. Once they have mastered Monster phonics they will then move on to a blend of systematic synthetic reading books from stage 5 to stage 10. By this point they will not need coloured 'sounds' (graphemes).

I don't know as much as my child knows about the Monsters so how can I help with reading at home?

Learn with them! Find out about the monsters. Let your child be the teacher! Please remember that we are always here if something is tricky or you have a question.