

Cover Feature

• Photos: Cathy Wong, Seedland Publishing Limited

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Cathy



Say it to learn it

Miss Chan says learning English starts with learning **phonics**. But what is phonics? It is a method of teaching pronunciation and spelling based on sounds. "If you know phonics, you will **improve** your English speaking, reading and writing!" Miss Chan says.



Why learn phonics?

Students sometimes think reading words is boring. But Miss Chan says reading can be enjoyable if you can 'make sense of' the words. A whole passage starts to make sense if you know how to pronounce them and their meanings.

When your vocabulary bank builds up, reading will become a lot easier.

Miss Chan hopes that students will learn phonics to become more interested in learning English. She says this will really help you improve your English!

The word 'phonics' begins with a 'p' but is pronounced 'fonics'!

That is because 'p' and 'h' combine to make a 'fuh' sound!



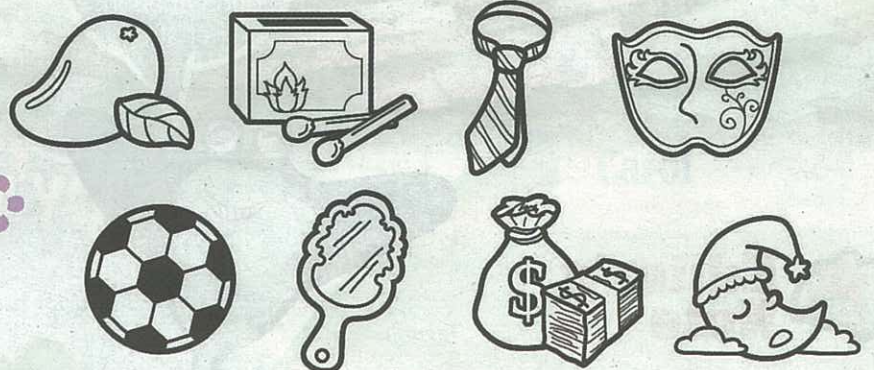
Tips on pronunciation

First, we have to know about **consonant** and **vowel** sounds. We **pronounce** a word by combining both the consonant and vowel sounds. Consonants sounds include s, f, h, t, p, m, n, r and more. Vowel sounds include a, e, i, o, u. When we **combine** the consonant 'h' with the vowel 'a', we produce the sound 'ha'.



Game

Say the names of these pictures. Circle the pictures which begin with the sound 'm'.



Excerpt from My 1st Phonic Book by Cecilia Cha

Answers on G12



Phonic books

Goodies is giving away 3 sets of the four phonic books, courtesy of Seedland Publishing Limited. For a chance to win, click the Facebook 'like' icon at [www.facebook.com/goodiesnewspaper](http://www.facebook.com/goodiesnewspaper) and answer a question there!



Vocabulary

phonics (n) 聲學  
 improve (v) 改進

consonant (n) 子音  
 vowel (n) 母音

pronounce (v) 發音  
 combine (v) 結合

Challenge

