

Sound Buttons Guide

When reading words children can use sound buttons to help them identify the graphemes (ways we write the sound) for each sound in a word.

- If one letter is used for a sound we use a dot. ●
- If we write a sound using more than one letter (for example a digraph which has two letters or a trigraph which has three letters) we use a straight line under all the letters in the grapheme. ─
- If it is a split digraph we use a curved line (a 'smile') to join the two letters together. ☺

Here are some examples of words with sound buttons:

swing
● ● ● ─

make
● ☺

day
● ─

chop
─ ● ●

play
● ● ─

night
● ─ ●

fine
● ☺

steep
● ● ─ ●

hair
● ─

phone
─ ☺

these
─ ☺

cube
● ☺