

Synthetic Phonics vs Analytic Phonics

Synthetic Phonics – the reader is taught to sound out **individual sounds** in a word and blend them into the word. The reader ‘synthesizes’ (blends) the individual sounds into a word, e.g. /f/ /r/ /o/ /g/ → ‘frog’.

Analytic Phonics – the reader is taught by breaking the word up into **word parts**. This begins with an ‘analysis’ of the whole word which is broken into onset and rime, e.g. ‘fr’ + ‘og’ → ‘frog’

Verdict: Based on research (Watson and Johnson, 2004), the Rose Report (2006) reviewed methods of reading instruction and concluded that **Synthetic Phonics** was the most effective way to teach all children to read.