

What is a phoneme?

A phoneme is smallest unit of sound in a word, e.g. the word 'cat' has three phonemes /k /a/ /t/.

Why do we need phonemes?

The English Alphabetic Code is based on the 44 phonemes in the English language. The letters of the alphabet represent those sounds with 175 letter combinations. Yes, it's complicated!

When we teach reading, we need to show how the alphabetic code works: that the **letters** on the page **spell sounds in words**.

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