

Using scaffolded texts

Scaffolded texts may be used for a variety of purposes:

- as a listening activity to identify words containing the target sound
- as a stimulus to explore the target sound, e.g.
 - highlight all the words containing the target sound
 - sort highlighted words according to the graphemes
 - discuss orthographic tendencies, e.g. which representation is most likely to be found at the end/beginning/middle of a word
- to read aloud to develop fluency and automatic recognition of the target sound within words in a text
- to develop comprehension skills
- to extend oral and written vocabulary

Sample scaffolded texts are organised according to phases and teachers should choose the text/texts most appropriate for their classes. Teachers may find it more appropriate to use a text, poem, song, extract from a big book or novel etc. as a stimulus. Many suitable resources are already available in schools. The main purpose of scaffolded texts is to encourage children to listen carefully to sounds within words and to provide a stimulus through which they may investigate the complexities of the English language, by exploring a target sound each week.