

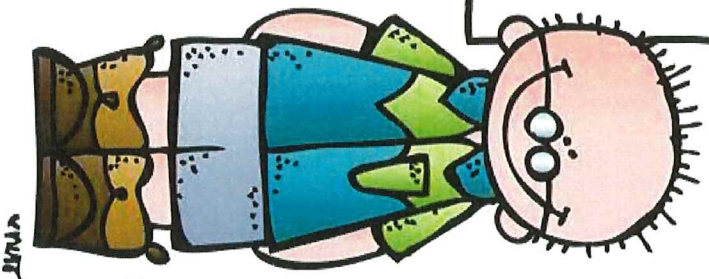
# PARENT CONNECTION

## What is a phoneme?

A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word that can change the meaning of the word. In other words, it is the smallest unit of sound in a language that can be used to distinguish between words.

## Why is it important?

Phonemes are important building blocks of language and play a crucial role in literacy, speech development, communication, language acquisition, and cross-cultural understanding.



## Ways I can support this at home.

- Play games that involve identifying and producing different sounds, such as sound matching, sound bingo, or "I Spy" with sounds.
- Read books with your child and point out the sounds in words. Encourage your child to identify the sounds in words and to associate them with letters.
- Write words on cards and have your child sort them by their beginning sounds. This helps children understand the relationship between sounds and letters.