

National curriculum

Important NC features in Wordshark

KS1

Reception lists are based on what the government expects to have been learnt by Year 1. They can be taken in the order suggested by any phonics scheme. The phonics box should be ticked initially when introducing new work. Different games are available when the box is un-ticked.

For Year 1 and Year 2 the lists are in the order suggested by the government. They are short, and contain the words suggested by the government – familiar to 5 year olds. The spelling patterns need to be learnt but the individual words are not statutory.

Able spellers can use the **extended lists** which give access to more words. Click on *Extended sample* to refresh the list, as generally there is a large pool of words to draw from (visible if you click on *Extended*).

Revision Breaks have been added into Wordshark to provide places to pause and reinforce what has been covered – the words are refreshed for you with each new game. These breaks continue in KS2.

Year 1 phonics screening check – valuable practice

Lists under this heading contain the reading material that year 1 students have covered. The alien words have alien pictures. An adult should sit with the child to monitor his/her responses. *Say word* is the appropriate Wordshark game nearest to the real test conditions and is therefore the only recommended game in Wordshark.

KS2

KS2 is presented by the government in two sections in two-year blocks, Yr 3&4, and Yr 5&6. The work has to be covered by the end of each 2-year section, but the order can be varied. You could possibly use the Wordshark REVISION BREAKS to divide up the work for different years and terms.

Statutory lists

The words in these have been organised in Wordshark into lists, under various headings.

The children are expected to apply their **suffixing skills** to these words. For this reason, the **extended lists** should be used after the standard list is learnt as the **extended lists** contain examples with prefixes and suffixes added. *Sharks alter* and *Maze alter* practise the necessary suffixing skills.

A substantial number of the words need careful learning and the variety of spelling games will help with this.

