



## Approach to Phonics

Jenny Phillips worked for years with reading specialists and educators to study and test many different approaches to phonics. The Good & the Beautiful approach to phonics is unique in that it combines the best principles that were found in several different methods. Phonics principles are taught through Level 3.

- Children learn phonograms through flashcards and course book work. Our flashcards are unique in that they include not only phonograms, but also words that incorporate the phonograms being learned, helping children connect phonograms to actual words.
- Course book work is colorful, interactive, and includes constant variation to learning, avoiding predictability and using a variety of learning styles.
- Children learn to segment words into individual sounds (phonograms) then blend the sounds into words.
- Children learn consonant blends.
- Children learn to recognize patterns in words, such as word families.
- Children explicitly learn and practice concepts such as Silent E, soft C and G, and open and closed syllables.
- Children learn a small number of high frequency and irregular sight words to build early fluency and confidence. However, emphasis is not placed on sight words.
- Children practice repeated targeted reading through mini books that are not only wholesome and promote family, nature, faith, and high character, but also target the phonograms, sight words, and concepts being learned.
- Children learn to spell words phonemically at the same time they learn to read them phonemically. Children learn to spell irregular and high-frequency words. Children learn spelling rules deemed to be the most clear and helpful. Many spelling rules are not taught as they are complicated and contain so many exceptions that we do not deem them very helpful.
- Children practice decoding difficult words by breaking them into chunks and applying rules learned, such as C and G are soft before I, E, or Y.
- Our program is unique in that it connects phonics learning with beautiful art, discussion, and imagination, thus creating an educational foundation right from the start that connect the child's learning to deeper meaning and enjoyment.