Phonics terminology help sheet

Phoneme - is the smallest unit of speech, a sound.

Grapheme - the letter that represents the sound.

Digraph - two letters that make one sound e.g. ai in r<u>ai</u>n.

Trigraph - three letters that make one sound e.g igh in n<u>igh</u>t.

Split vowel digraph - this can be a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e or u-e. Example words make, even, like, bone and flute.

Blend - We blend the sounds together to read a word.

Segment - We break the word up into each sound that we can hear.