The English Alphabetic Code

simple code	dipping into complex code						
phonemes	graphemes of units 1 to 5 key words key pictures						
/s/	snake	glass	palace	house			
/a/	apple						
/t/	teddy	letter	skipped				
/i/	insect						

/p/	pan	puppet					
/n/	net	bonnet					
/k/	cat	kit	duck				
/e/	egg	head	said				
/h/	hat						

/r/	rat	arrow						
/m/	map	hammer	welcome					
/d/	dig	puddle	rained					
/g/	girl	juggle						
/o/	orange							

/u/	umbrella	son						
/l/	ladder	shell						
/ul/		kettle						
/f/	feathers	cliff						
/b/	bat	rabbit						

/j/	jug	cabba**ge**					
/y/	**y**awn						
/ai/	**ai**d	tr**ay**	t**a**ble				
/w/	**w**eb	**wh**eel					
/oa/	**oa**k	b**ow**	pian**o**				

/igh/	t**ie**	n**igh**t	beh**i**nd	fl**y**				
/ee/	**ee**l	**ea**t	**e**mu	*sunn**y***	k**ey** / *monk**ey***			
/or/	f**or**k							
/z/	**z**ebra	ja**zz**	frie**s**	chee**se**	bree**ze**			
/ng/	go**ng**							

/ngk/	ink						
/v/	violin	dove					
/oo/	book	should					
/oo/	moon	blue					
/ks/	fox	books	cakes	ducks			

/ch/	chairs						
/sh/	sheep						
/th/	thistle						
/th/	there						
/kw/	queen						

/ou/	ouch	owl						
/oi/	ointment	toy						
/yoo/	statue	unicorn						
/er/	mermaid	mixer						
/ar/	artist	father						

/air/							
/eer/							
/zh/							

*-y, *-ey, *-ie as word endings are often pronounced between /i/ and /ee/.

The complexities of the English Alphabetic Code include:
1. one sound (phoneme) can be represented by one, two, three or four letters: e.g. k, sh, ng, igh, eigh
2. one sound can be represented by different spellings (graphemes): e.g. /oa/ is represented by: o, oa, ow, oe, o-e, eau, ough
3. one spelling can represent multiple sounds: e.g. 'ough': /oa/ th**ough**, /or/ th**ough**t, /oo/ thr**ough**, /ou/ pl**ough**, /u/ thor**ough**

Key to the 12 units of Debbie Hepplewhite's Phonics International online synthetic phonics programme:

units 1-5	Mainly simple code with options to extend	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th		
6-12	/air/, /eer/, /zh/, split digraphs, complex code	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th

Debbie's programme introduces a simple code of at least one letter/s-sound correspondence for each of the 44+ sounds of speech of the English language.
The programme then expands to teach further spelling and pronunciation variations of the complex Alphabetic Code.