



READING AND PHONICS PACK

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Phonics at home



Games to play at home

Phonics involves the development of many different skills; listening, speaking, attention, hearing different sounds and recognising symbols. This pack aims to help your child to gain confidence with these skills through games.

There are 44 sounds in all. Some are made with two letters, but **children need to learn the 19 most common single letter sounds.**

The order in which sounds are taught will depend on which scheme your child's school follows, usually, they will learn the most commonly used phonemes first, starting with:

/s/, /a/, /t/, /i/, /p/, /n/

In schools, letters and their sounds are introduced one at a time. A set of letters is taught each week, in the following sequence:

Set 1: s, a, t, p

Set 2: i, n, m, d

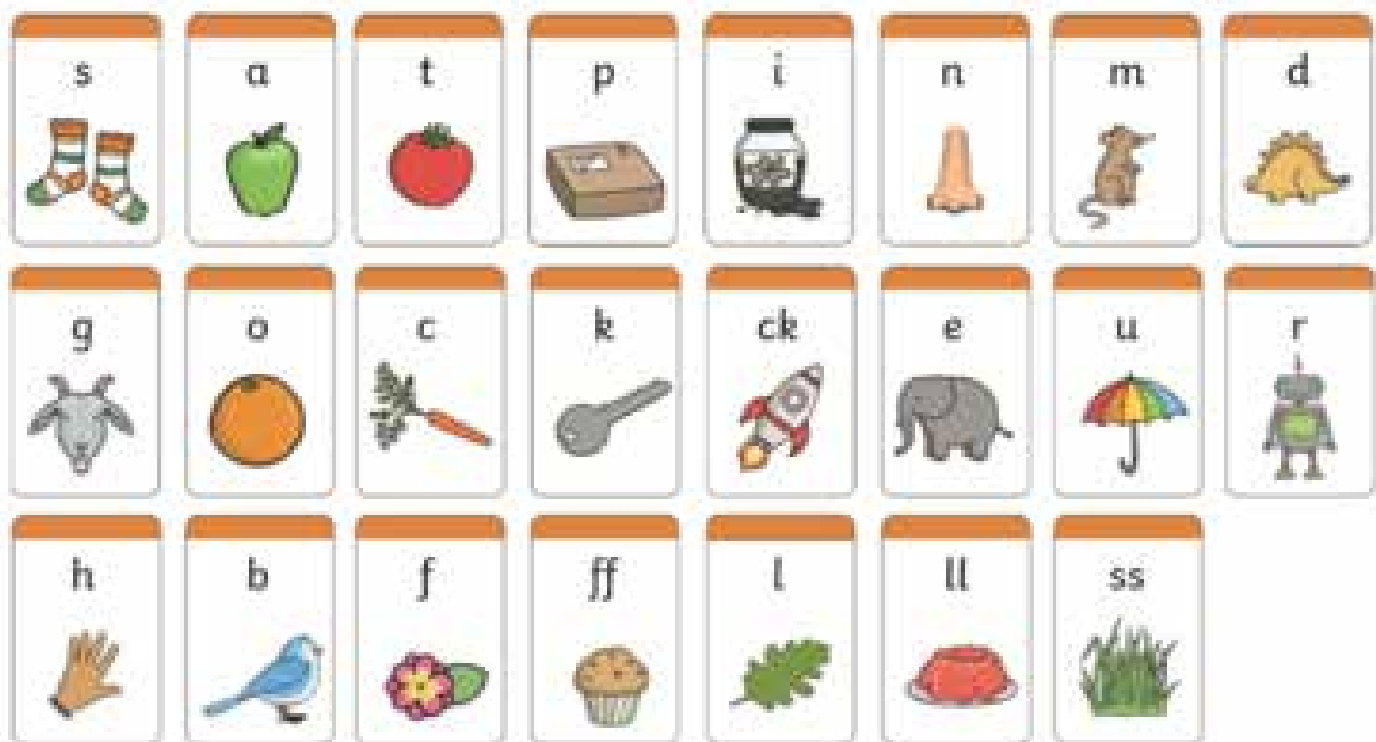
Set 3: g, o, c, k

Set 4: ck, e, u, r

Set 5: h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

As soon as each set of letters is introduced, children will be encouraged to use their knowledge of the letter sounds to blend and sound out words. For example, they will learn to blend the sounds s-a-t to make the word sat. They will also start learning to segment words. For example, they might be asked to find the letter sounds that make the word tap from a small selection of magnetic letters.

This sound mat below can be printed from the Twinkl website and show the order that sounds are taught. Children love ticking off the sounds that they can recognise.



Flash card games

Recognise the card

Children love flash cards. Stack the letters in a pile and take turn to turn one over. Prompt your child to remember the sound that each letter makes by exaggerating the mouth movement whilst quietly whispering the sound.

Describe the card

Split the pack of flash cards into two piles. One for you and one for your child. Take it in turns to talk about the letter at the top of your pack, describing it and saying items that begin with that sound. If your school has taught your child a song to help them to remember the sound then you could sing that too. The idea of the game is to guess which flash card is being described by the other person.

Describe it

“It’s long and curly and looks like a snake!”

Name things that begin with it

“Sausage, snake and scissors all begin with this sound.”

Your teacher says

“Slither down the snake!”

“Can you tell me the sound that this card makes?”



Describe it

“It has a long stick and a round shape at the top”

Name things that begin with it

“pan, pocket, pirate all begin with this sound.”

Your teacher says

“Down the Pirates plait and around his face!”

“Can you tell me the sound that this card makes?”



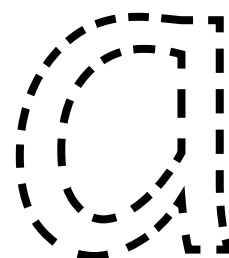
Sound hunt

Hide the flash cards around your home. Challenge your child to find them and tell you what they have found.

When your child brings back a card ask them what sound it makes. Praise them and say words beginning with that sound. "Well done that does make a 'd' sound. 'D' for dinosaur, dig and dog.

Copy the card

Cut up some pieces of card and encourage your child to copy the letter to make their own flash cards. You may need to draw some dots or guides so that your child can trace over it and make a recognisable letter.



Make a pair

Place 10 sound flash cards and 10 matching pictures on the floor. Take turns to say the sound and then match to the picture that begins with that sound.

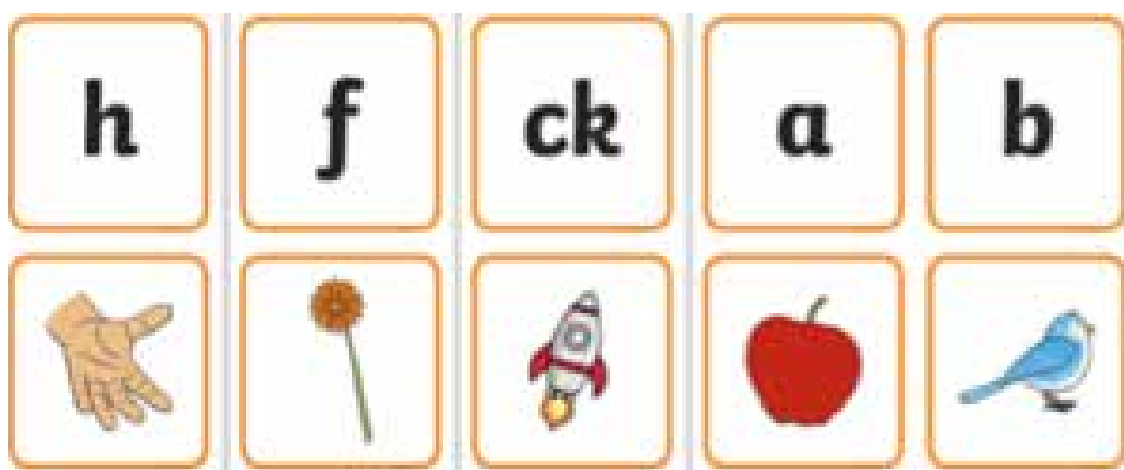


Image showing flash card available for download on Twinkl website.

Initial Sound Match Games



<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-2-games.html>

This website has free online games to help children learn to read, write and spell. Below is a game on the website that your child will enjoy!

To play these memory games, click a card on the top row to turn over a letter card then click a card on the bottom row to turn over a picture card. If the object in the picture starts with the same sound as the letter, you have found a match. If not, the cards will turn over so you can have another go.

Having experienced listening activities including songs, stories and rhymes, your child is ready to move children on from oral blending and segmentation to blending and segmenting with letters that they have been learning to recognise. Blending is the ability to string together the sounds that each letter stands for in a word. Your child will learn to look at a short word and link the sounds together to make a word. Encourage your child to point to each of the sounds with their finger as they say them until they can hear the word.

Blending is a very difficult skill and takes time to master. Encourage your child and support them by saying the word with them. Do not worry if your child seems to need lots of help at this stage.



“s-a-t sat.”

Blending games

Guess the word – collect or draw pictures of items that have 3 sounds in them. For example – dog, cat, sun, pan, web, mat, nut.

Make a word using the flash cards and say to your child.

“Point to the sounds and make a word.

What word can you hear?”

Prompt them by showing them the pictures or items.

Praise your child for blending the sounds to make a word.



s u n



PhonicsPlay.co.uk

This website has a whole section to help Parents to support their children with blending.

The game Buried Treasure challenges your child to blend 3 sounds together to make a word. They must then drag the coin to the treasure chest if it's a real word and bin it if not.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html

Other useful websites with interactive games and tablet friendly games that are free to access are;

www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds