

letters

There are 26 letters in English.

Each letter has a name, like b (bee), and a sound, like 'b' (buh).

Some letters have more than one sound.

For instance g makes a 'g' sound like in 'gum' or 'j' sound like in 'gym'
Sometimes two letters make a new sound like the ou in cloud says 'ow'.

So there are 26 letters, but they make more than 45 sounds.

Once you learn these sounds, you can read.

Letters are either vowels or consonants

there are 5 vowels

a e i o u

(and sometimes y)

Each vowel has a short sound and a long sound.

We learn the short sounds first (like the 'a' sound in ant).

The long sound says the letter's name (like the 'a' sound in ate).

Sometimes y acts like a vowel (like in puppy - the y says 'e').

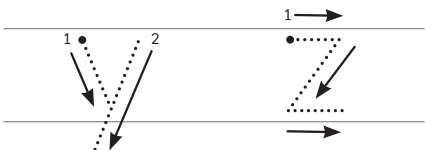
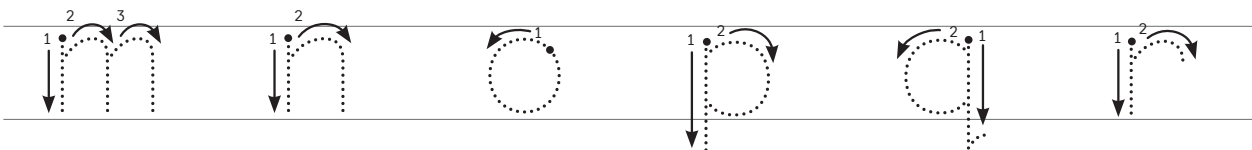
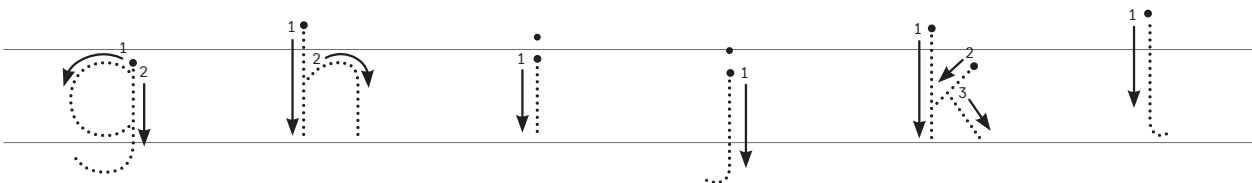
All the other 21 letters are consonants

b c d f g h j

k l m n p q r

s t v w x y z

how to write your letters



my sounds chart

a



ant

e



egg

i



in

o



octopus

u



up

th



thumb

ch



chop

sh



ship

wh



whale

qu



queen

ay



spray

ai



snail

ee



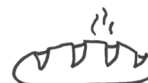
bee

ea



leaf

ea



bread

oa



goat

ow



row

ow



owl

ou



cloud

ck



duck

oo



book

oo



balloon

oi



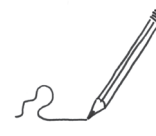
oink

oy



toy

aw



draw

ar



car

or



horse

er



tiger

ir



bird

ur



surf

my sounds chart

ai
ay

rain go away

ir
ur
er

a bird a turtle a tiger

ie
igh
y

pie high in the sky

ue
oo
ew

blue balloon flew

ou
ow

loud cow

ee
ea

sheep eat

oi
oy

point at the toy

ow
oa

slow boat



sight words

Sight words are extra hard because they usually don't have any picture associations.

Also, they are frequently used but sometimes follow unusual spelling patterns.

All of these words do follow sound rules, but they are often advanced lessons.

So to make it easier for your early reader,
play some fun games so they recognize these frequently seen tricky words.
You can add new words as you come across them in your reading (like 'eight')

list 1

the
and
we
me
am
of
I
all
he
she
to
for

list 2

who
why
you
this
that
were
have
are
by
what
where
was

list 3

friend
said
some
people
more
about
very
school
there
from
with
each

It's helpful that your learner learns to read these words separately from all the letter sound learning they are doing, but don't worry about their spelling of these words for now, if they are an early reader/writer.

sight words

Print and cut out words or write out on post-it notes or fun paper (all lower case).

Read the word together. Say it, write it, say it in a sentence.

Don't learn them all at once, just do one a day, or one every few days.



the	who	friend	use
and	why	said	each
we	you	some	day
me	this	people	see
am	that	more	come
of	were	about	look
I	have	very	they
all	are	school	like
he	by	there	play
she	what	from	read
to	where	with	again
for	was	but	could

words lists - long e



ee

middle or end

bee

sheep

feel

sweet

tree

queen

deep



ea

start, middle or end

leaf

eat

each

seal

pea

beach

peach



y

y says 'e' at the end of
a 2 syllable word

puppy

bunny

sunny

funny

happy

baby

candy

words lists - long i



igh



i_e

magic e



y

y says 'i' at the end of a
1 syllable word

light

kite

spy

night

bike

fly

fright

like

by

high

side

sky

right

hide

my



ie

pie tie lie die

'ie' also says 'i', but only in these 4 words, so it's not found very often

words lists - long o



oa

mostly in the middle, but
sometimes at the start

boat

toad

goat

soap

oat



o_e

magic e

home

smoke

joke

rode

bone



ow

mostly at the end

crow

bow

row

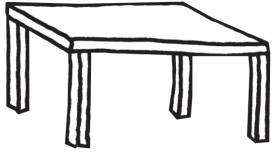
snow

blow

oe toe foe doe

only at the end, and only in these 3 words, so very rare

words lists - long a



a

at the start
or middle

table

acorn

apron

baby

paper

alien



a_e

magic e

cake

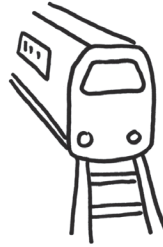
ate

same

gate

lake

take



ai

at the start
or middle

train

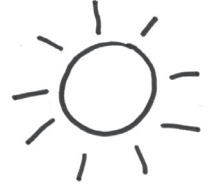
aim

rain

mail

wait

paint



ay

at the end

day

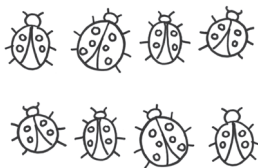
say

away

ray

play

today



8

eigh eight weigh eighteen

'eigh' also says 'ay', but not very often.
Learn eight as a sight word.

words lists - long u



u

at the start
or middle

unicorn

unit

uniform

human

music

student

duty



u_e

magic e

cute

use

tube

dude

flute



oo

in the middle
or the end

moon

scoot

zoo

tooth

balloon

toot

pool

food

boot

too



ew

at the end

blew

few

grew

chew

drew



ue

at the end

glue

clue

blue

words lists - 'ch' sound



ch



tch

start sound

chop

chip

chin

chat

cheek

end sound

such

catch

rich

batch

inch

itch

lunch

hatch

much

stitch

words lists

③



th

ck

wh

sh

start sound

three

whale

sheep

the

when

ship

thin

white

she

that

wheel

shop

then

what

shed

end sound

math

duck

crash

with

rock

mash

bath

luck

fish

moth

stick

dish

teeth

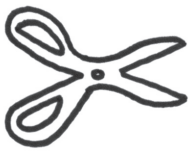
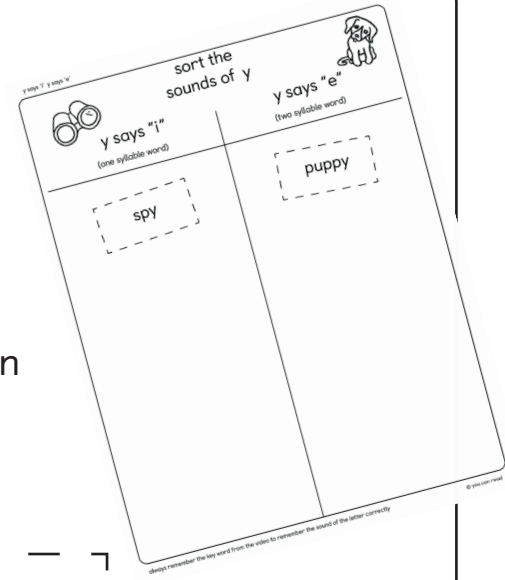
sock

wish

sounds of y

when it's at the end of a word
or syllable

cut out the words below
place them into the correct column
does the y say "i" or "e"



fly	happy
puppy	cry
spy	smelly
messy	why
my	slimy
sticky	fry

don't forget y says 'y' at the start of a word, like in "yes"



sort the sounds of y



y says "i"

(one syllable word)

y says "e"

(two syllable word)

spy

puppy

sounds of c

hard c c says 'k'
when c is followed by a, o or u
or another consonant

soft c c says 's'
when c is followed by e, i or y

underline the letter c, then underline the next letter
does the c say 's' or 'k'? trace and say the word

cat cat

ice ice

cap cap

face face

cot cot

city city

cup cup

pencil pencil

clap clap

cycle cycle

clip clip

fancy fancy

sounds of g

hard g g says 'g'

when g is followed by a, o or u
or another consonant

soft g g says 'j'

when g is followed by e, i or y

underline the letter g, then underline the next letter
does the g say 'g' or 'j'?
trace and say the word

gas gas

gem gem

go go

huge huge

gum gum

giant giant

goat goat

gym gym

open or closed syllable

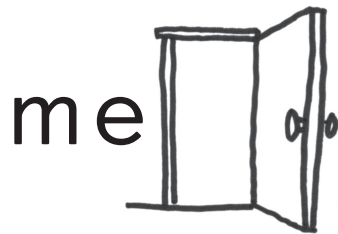
put your hands together, then open and close your hands
as you read the open and closed vowel sounds

open

vowel at the end of a syllable

long vowel sound

the vowel says its name



hi

be

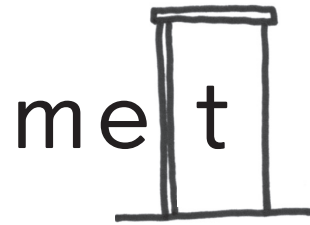
we

no

closed

consonant at the end of a syllable

short vowel sound



hip

bet

web

not

magic e

use your finger as a magic wand
 magically change the sound of the vowel
 by adding a silent e at the end

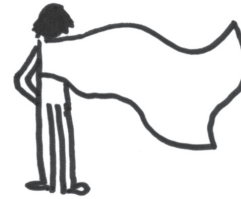
without the silent e
 the a has a short vowel
 sound (like ant)

cap



cap_e

add the silent e and
 the a sound becomes long
 - it says its name 'a'



cape

cub__

tap__



fin__

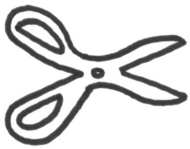
bit__

magic e

when an 'e' is at the end of a word it is silent
 the silent e makes the vowel that came before it
 say its name

without the silent e
 the u has a short vowel
 sound (like in 'up')

add a silent e at the end and
 change the sound of the vowel
 to the long vowel sound
 - it says its name, 'u'



cut

cute



kit__

can__

mad__

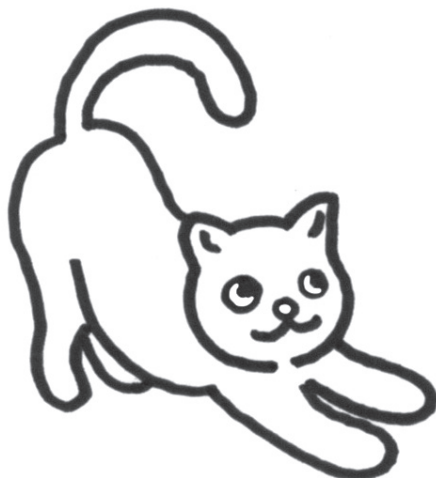


hop__



c k ck all say "k"

read, say and circle the "k" sounds and colour in the pictures



a (c)at

and a duck

had a picnic

in the park

with a kite



c

before a o u
or a consonant

cat clap
cup clip
car music
cap picnic

ck

at the end (word, syllable)
after a short vowel

duck truck
back black
tick pick
tock pocket

k

before i e or y
after vowel teams
after everything else

kite risky
kettle bank
milk beak
kept creek

the "j" sound

j

the consonant
letter j

jam
jar
jump
joke
enjoy

soft g

before e, i, or y

gym
giant
page
genius
gem

-dge

after a short vowel

edge
hedge
judge
hodge
podge

-ge

after a long vowel

age
cage
rage
large
huge

-d

with a connective 'u'

individual
schedule
residual
graduate
gradual