

What are Speed Sounds?

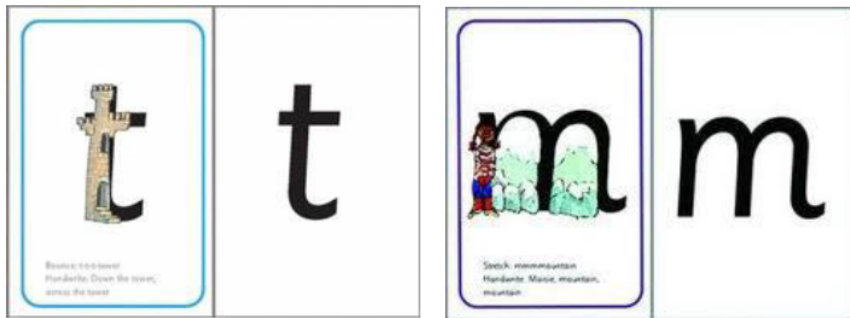
In phonics the individual sounds are called 'speed sounds'. This is because we want your son/daughter to read them effortlessly.

Speed Sounds Set 1






























In Reception, your son/daughter will learn to read the Set 1 sounds by sight. They will also learn how to blend them together to read words e.g. c-a-t = cat.

To begin phonics, we learn a sound a day. We use pure sounds so that your son/daughter will be able to blend the sounds into words more easily.

Letter-sound pictures are used to help your son/daughter learn these sounds quickly. mmaise mmmountain represents 'm' t-t-t-tower represents 't'



Set 1 sounds are taught in the following order alongside the accompanying pictures:

m 	a 	s 	d 	t 
i 	n 	p 	g 	o 
c 	k 	u 	b 	f 
e 	l 	h 	sh 	r 
j 	v 	y 	w 	th 
z 	ch 	qu 	x 	ng nk

Each sound also has an accompanying rhyme:

m	Down Maisie, then over the two mountains. Maisie, mountain, mountain.
a	Round the apple, down the leaf.
s	Slither down the snake
d	Round the dinosaur's back, up his tall neck and down to his feet.
t	Down the tower, across the tower.
i	Down the insects body, dot for the head.
n	Down Nobby and over the net.
p	Down the plait, up and over the pirates face.
g	Round the girls face, down her hair and give her a curl.
o	All around the orange.
c	Curl around the caterpillar.
k	Down the kangaroo's body, tail and leg.
u	Down and under the umbrella, up to the top and down to the puddle.
b	Down the laces, over the toe and touch the heel.
f	Down the stem and draw the leaves.
e	Slice into the egg, go over the top, then under the egg.
l	Down the long leg.
h	Down the horse's head, to the hooves and over his back.
sh	Slither down the snake, then down the horses head, to the hooves and over his back.
r	Down the robot's back, then up and curl.
j	Down his body, curl and dot.
v	Down his body, curl and dot.
y	Down a horn, up a horn and under the yak's head.
w	Down, up, down, up the worm.
th	Down the tower, across the tower, then down the horse's head, to the hooves and over his back.
z	Zig-zag-zig, down the zip.
ch	Curl around the caterpillar, then down the horse's head, to the hooves and over his back.
qu	Round the queen's head, up to her crown, down her hair and curl.
x	Cross down the arm and leg and cross the other way.
ng	A thing on a string.
ng	I think I stink.

To support children's letter formation, these rhymes should be taught be taught alongside the sound. This will help children with writing.

Once the children have learnt the first 5 sounds we teach them to blend them. When we say words in pure sounds we call it 'Fred Talk'. E.g. p-a-n, c-l-a-p.

Fred is a puppet who says, read and spells words in pure sounds. He never says the whole word so the children blend it for him. For example, Fred will say the sound r-a-t, and the children will say the word 'rat'.

We never use letter names at this early stage.



Set 1 Green Words

'Green words' are words which your son/daughter should be able to read independently as they are made up of the speed sounds that s/he will have learnt.

The dots and dashes below each sound are called 'sound buttons'. A dot represents a single letter sound; a dash represents a digraph (two letters that make one sound) or a trigraph (three letters that make one sound).

These are the appropriate set 1 green words:

1.1

aṭ	maṭ	saṭ
maḍ	daḍ	saḍ

1.2

gaṗ	paṅ	toṗ
goṭ	doḡ	piṅ
tiṗ	piḡ	diḡ
siṭ	iṭ	iṅ
oṅ	aṅḍ	aṅ

1.3

uṗ	cuṗ	muḍ
kiṭ	beḍ	geṭ
meṭ	biṅ	baḍ
caṭ	caṅ	coṭ

1.6

wiṅ	chiṅ	thiḱ
chop	chaṭ	quiṭ
quiz	siṅ	thiṅ
baṅ	thiṣ	thiṅ
fix	six	zaḡ
zip	fox	box

1.4

heṅ	hiṭ	haḍ
faṅ	faṭ	loḡ
shoṗ	fuṅ	liṗ
fiṣh	shiṗ	leṭ

1.5

jeṭ	wet	vet
yes	wiṣh	wet
yet	jam	yap
jog	wiṅ	yum
rat	red	run

1.7

stiṅ	wiṅ	baḱ
skiṅ	slid	slip
grin	prop	praṅ
from	clip	graṅ
hand	stand	stamp
flop	frog	jump
black	flag	think
skip	best	trip
blob	brat	drip
drop	blip	fluff
dress	huff	mess
test	trap	spit
stop	spot	strop

Red Words

Some everyday words in English have tricky spellings and can't be read by blending e.g. you can't blend the words 'said' or 'does'. These are sometimes called high frequency words, tricky words, or red words. These words just have to be learned by sight and flashcard-type games are a good way to practise these.

These are the red words that children should be able to read by the end of the phonics programme.

I	wall	two	walk	bought
of	some	could	for *	daughter
my *	there	would	have *	wear
to	so *	anyone	little *	oh
the	what	over *	when *	Mr
no *	they	does	sister *	Mrs
your	do	through	why *	I've
said	old *	once	down *	It's
you	was	here	know *	don't
he *	one	son	out *	asked
are	saw *	you're	look(ed) *	into
me *	watch	humans	very *	
go *	school *	whole	came *	
baby	small	should	about *	
paint *	by *	come	house *	
all	who	many	how *	
like *	tall	mother	now *	
want	brother	father	people	
call(ed)	I'm	water	talk	
we *	their	great	love	
be *	any	above	buy	
her *	fall	where	worse	
she *	were	someone	thought	
washing	other	another	caught	

* = 'Red for a While' Words (once grapheme is taught they become green words)