Primary Tools

Simple words

Pack 1 of 5

5 sets of 6 words: 3 real words and 3 alien (made-up) words in each set. Set 1 is the easiest and Set 5 the hardest. This is the free starter pack. The last page shows the whole phonics journey.

What is this pattern?

Words made from single-letter sounds, with no letter teams (digraphs). Some have two or three consonants side by side, like **frog** or **stamp**. Every letter is sounded.

Sounds to know: Short vowels: *a* as in cat, e as in pen, i as in sit, o as in hop, u as in bug.

How to use the cards

- Show one page at a time. Ask your child to read each word aloud, in any order.
- The words with an alien picture are made up. They check that your child can sound out and blend, not just remember words.
- Do one set a day. Move on to the next set when the current one feels easy.

Tips for practising at home

- Say each sound short and crisp: **t**, not 'tuh'. Short sounds blend more easily.
- For words like **frog**, say each sound (f-r-o-g), then slide them together.
- Set 1 uses three-letter words. By Set 5 there are long runs of consonants, such as **strap** and **prompt**.
- Keep it short and cheerful: 5 to 10 minutes is plenty.
- Let your child try first. If they are stuck, point to each sound, say the sounds together, then blend them (sh-ar-p, sharp).
- Praise effort. Stop before it stops being fun and come back to tricky words another day.

What counts as correct?

Fine: reading the word straight off, or sounding it out and then blending it. Changing their mind is fine too: the last try is the one that counts.

Alien words: any sensible pronunciation of the letters is fine, including regional accents. The adult guide on the last page shows how each one can be said.

Not correct yet: sounds that are not blended into a whole word, the wrong sound for a letter or letter team, or a letter name instead of its sound. Try again together.

My progress: tick each set when it feels easy

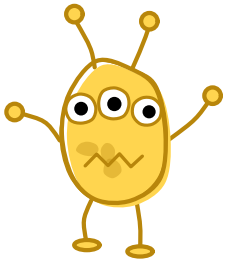
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Date	Date	Date	Date	Date

sit

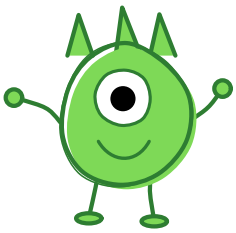
hop

bug

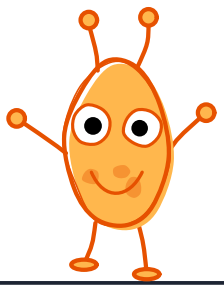
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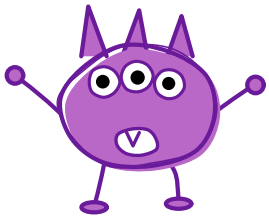


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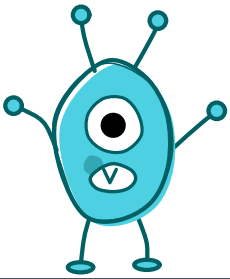
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milk

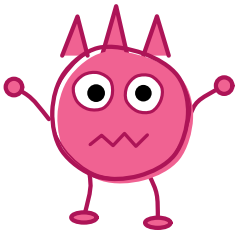
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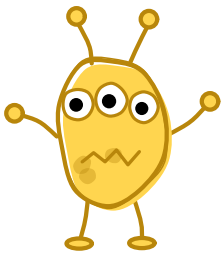


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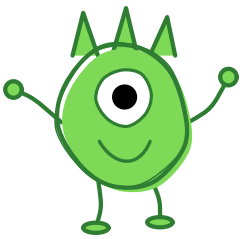
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tund



snop

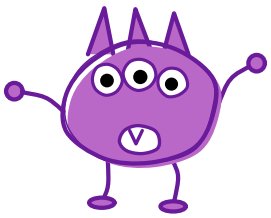


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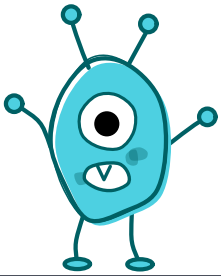
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spend

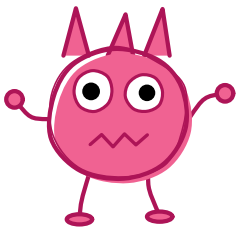
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grint

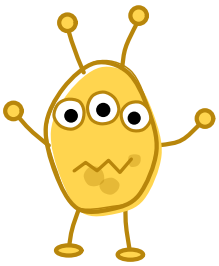


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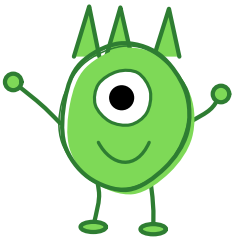
prompt

crafts

splen



frimpt



drelps



Adult guide: *a*lien words

Simple words. Any sensible pronunciation of the letters is fine for alien words, including regional accents. These are the usual ways to say them.

Set	Word	Sounds	Say it like
1	**vep**	v-e-p	rhymes with step
1	**fod**	f-o-d	rhymes with nod
1	**lub**	l-u-b	rhymes with tub
2	**frem**	f-r-e-m	rhymes with hem
2	**dalp**	d-*a*-l-p	rhymes with scalp
2	**kimp**	k-i-m-p	rhymes with limp
3	**glem**	g-l-e-m	rhymes with hem
3	**tund**	t-u-n-d	rhymes with fund
3	**snop**	s-n-o-p	rhymes with shop
4	**brelp**	b-r-e-l-p	rhymes with help
4	**clost**	c-l-o-s-t	rhymes with lost
4	**grint**	g-r-i-n-t	rhymes with mint
5	**splen**	s-p-l-e-n	rhymes with ten
5	**frimpt**	f-r-i-m-p-t	rhymes with crimped
5	**drelps**	d-r-e-l-p-s	rhymes with helps

Primary Tools

Your phonics journey

Five packs, one step at a time. Each pack has 5 sets of 6 words (3 real and 3 alien), tips for parents and an adult guide. Start with Pack 1 and move on when the sets feel easy. You can come back to any pack at any time.

1

Pack 1: Simple words

You are here

Single-letter sounds blended into words, from three-letter words to long runs of consonants.

Real words: sit, frog, strap, prompt



Alien words: vep, frem

2

Pack 2: Consonant digraphs

Two letters that make one sound: sh, ch, th, ck, ng, qu and more.

Real words: ship, duck, king, knit



Alien words: shub, jeck

3

Pack 3: Vowel digraphs

Letter teams that make a vowel sound: ee, ai, oa, ou, igh, ar, or, ur and more.

Real words: feet, rain, cloud, night



Alien words: veeb, hout

4

Pack 4: Split digraphs

The silent e that changes the vowel: a-e, i-e, o-e and u-e.

Real words: cake, bike, home, tune



Alien words: vake, zome

5

Pack 5: Mixed digraphs

Both kinds of letter team in one word: a consonant team and a vowel team.

Real words: sheep, chain, whale, phone



Alien words: sheeb, choat

Ready for the next step?

Packs 2 to 5 take your child through the whole journey. Find them at primarytools.co.uk/product-category/phonics-2/