







Please use this as a guide while teaching phonics at home.
Pronunciation of the sounds and additional ideas are available on the Read Write Inc. channel on YouTube.

Set 1 Sounds are taught in the following order:





m a s d t i n p g o c k u b f e l h s h r j v y w t h z c h q u x n g n k

This means that children can quickly (after the first 5 sounds) start applying their sound knowledge to word-level work (reading and spelling).

The following Set 1 Sounds are all '**stretchy**' sounds and should be elongated when introduced. Try to avoid saying 'uh' (the schwa) after each one. e.g. /mm/ not muh, /ss/ not suh, /ff/ not fuh.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
|  | <p>m – mmmmmountain (keep lips pressed together hard) s – ssssssnake (keep teeth together and hiss – unvoiced) n – nnnnnnet (keep tongue behind teeth) f – ffffflower (keep teeth on bottom lip and force air out sharply – unvoiced) l – lllllleg (keep pointed curled tongue behind teeth). r – rrrrrrobot (say rrr as if you are growling) v – vvvvvvulture (keep teeth on bottom lip and force air out gently) z – zzzzzzig zzzzzzag (keep teeth together and make a buzzing sound) th – thhhhank you (stick out tongue and breathe out sharply) sh – shhhh (make a shhhh noise as though you are telling somebody to be quiet!) ng – thinnnnngg on a strinnnnngg (curl your tongue at the back of your throat) nk – I think I stink (make a piggy oink noise without the oi! nk nknk)</p> |    |
|   | | |

These next sounds are '**bouncy**' sounds. Make the sound as short as possible, avoiding 'uh' at the end of the sound:

| | | |
|--|--|--|
|   | <p>t – (tick tongue behind the teeth – unvoiced) p – (make distinctive p with lips – unvoiced) k – (make sharp click at back of throat) c – (as /k/, make a sharp click at back of throat) h – (say h as you breathe sharply out – unvoiced) ch – (make a short sneezing sound) x – (say a sharp c and add s – unvoiced)</p> |   |
|--|--|--|

You will find it harder to avoid saying 'uh' at the end of these sounds, so keep the sound as short as possible.



d – (tap tongue behind the teeth).
g – (make soft sound in throat).
b – (make a short, strong b with lips).
j – (push lips forward).
y – (keep edges of tongue against teeth).
w – (keep lips tightly pursed).
qu – (keep lips pursed as you say cw – unvoiced)



The short vowels should be kept short and sharp:



a: a-a-a (open mouth wide as if to take a bite of an apple).
e: e-e-e (release mouth slightly from a position).
i: i-i-i (make a sharp sound at the back of the throat – smile).
o: o-o-o (push out lips; make the mouth into o shape).
u: u-u-u (make a sound in the throat).



Set 2

'Set 2' refers to the long vowel sounds. All of these sounds are '**stretchy**' sounds.

ay ee igh ow oo oo
ar or air ir ou oy



ay – may I play
ee – what can you see
igh – fly high
ow – blow the snow
oo – poo at the zoo
oo – look at a book
ar – start the car
or – shut the door
air – that's not fair
ir – whirl and twirl
ou – shout it out
oy – toy for a boy

Set 3

'Set 3' mostly refers to the alternative spellings of vowel sounds. There are also some additional sounds within Set 3, such as 'ti' and 'ci', within tion and tious/cious.

ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw
are ur er ow ai oa
ew ire ear ure tion

ea – cup of tea
oi – spoil the boy
a-e – make a cake
i-e – nice smile
o-e – phone home
u-e – huge brute
aw – yawn at dawn
are – care and share
ur – nurse with a purse
er – better letter
ow – brown cow
ai – snail in the rain
oa – goat in a boat
ew – chew the stew
ire – fire fire
ear – what can you hear
ure – sure it's pure
tion – attention it's a celebration
tious/cious – scrumptious delicious

