

# Phoneme Sequence Chart and Word List

as presented in School Phonics

Across the top of the chart are the 44 phonemes in the English language and their most common spellings. The phonemes are shown left-to-right in their order of teaching in *School Phonics*.

Directly underneath each phoneme is a list of practice words that are presented in *School Phonics* as new phonemes are introduced. Each word is presented only after the phonemes in the word have been taught.

In addition to the practice words in each lesson, students will be able to read many other words composed of the phonemes they have learned. For example, in addition to the practice words under the phoneme /n/, they could also read the following words:

- span,
- prone,
- ponytail,
- plant,
- paint,
- bland,
- taint,
- retain,
- slant,
- strain,
- Spain,
- (etc.)

**Phoneme**  
Multiple spellings for the same phoneme are indicated as in /ā/.

	/i/	/l/	/ā/	/r/	/ō/	
	i-e		a-e	wr	ou	
	-igh		ai		rue	
	-y		ay		lue	
peep	bite	blow	ace	air	blue	breeze
east	by	bolt	ape	bright	boo	ears
pea	ice	bowl	ate	ear	boot	ease
peep	pie	eel	baby	leer	loop	easy
Pete	pipe	leap	bail	or	loot	places
post	sigh	lie	bale	pair	Lou	plays
seep	sight	light	base	pray	pool	please
soap	spice	low	bay	price	root	praise
soapy	spite	peal	lace	pry	rue	raise
teep	spy	peel	late	race	sloop	rose
tepee	steep	pile	lay	rajil	soup	sighs
	tie	ply	pace	ray	spool	size
	tight	pole	pail	real	stoop	spaces
		poll	pale	reel	Sue	spray
		seal	paste	rice	too	stair
		sleep	pay	right	tool	sta
		slight	place	ripe	toot	s
		slightly	plate	roar	tour	
		slope	play	roast	troop	
		slow	sail	robe	tru	
		teal	sale	role		
			say	ro		

**Practice Words**

# Reading Volume, Comprehension and Vocabulary

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## Reading Independence

Achieving the ability to read independently early in a child's schooling pays huge dividends in academic work and in personal growth. After completing *School Phonics*, a child can read any book of his or her choosing as well as the subject matter books assigned by the teacher.

## Volume of Reading

Early reading independence will have a pronounced effect on the academic achievement of children. If a child reads approximately one hour each day, over the course of a year, he or she will have read in excess of 10 million words. Delaying the onset of reading beyond when it could have started will unnecessarily create and perpetuate an achievement gap that is almost impossible to narrow. This is referred to as the *Matthew Effect*; "the rich get richer and the poor get poorer." The importance of reading independence early can be observed by noting that in the third grade curriculum, new vocabulary in the traditional subjects amounts to over 25,000 words.

## Vocabulary

It is widely agreed that most vocabulary growth takes place indirectly from exposure to language rather than through direct instruction. One of the primary sources of new vocabulary acquisition is through reading. The earlier a child can read independently, the sooner he or she will acquire a greater knowledge of words necessary to comprehend written text. A more extensive vocabulary will also provide additional resources for cognitive development as well. To a great extent, we think

with words; the more words a child knows, the greater will be the quality of his or her thinking.

## Mastery of the Alphabetic Code

At the conclusion of *School Phonics*, a child will be able to read any word that is phonetically regular in the language; that is, over 85% of the English language. Knowing the reciprocal relationship between speech and print gives a child access to the written equivalent of his or her oral vocabulary as well as the opportunity to learn new words.

## Comprehension

The course of instruction in *School Phonics* covers all of the essential concepts, skills and strategies children will need to learn to read and understand text. Over time, as the text they encounter becomes more complex, they can build on what they have learned and acquire new skills and strategies to meet the demands for greater understanding. Research indicates that there is little evidence of reading comprehension deficits in the presence of high levels of word recognition and listening comprehension skills.

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## Phonemes

A *phoneme* is a basic unit of sound that can change the meaning of a word. The words in the English language are made from 44 phonemes. For example, the word *phoneme* is composed of five sounds:

/f/ /ō/ /n/ /ē/ /m/

Blending, or combining, these separate sounds creates the word.

In *School Phonics*, children learn all 44 phonemes and their most common spellings. As seen above, the phoneme /f/ may be written as “ph.” By learning the phonemes and their common spellings, children will be able to read any word in the English language that is phonetically regular. In fact, more than 85% of the words we read are phonetically regular.

## Systematic and Explicit Phonics

The findings of the National Reading Panel (2000) determined that the most effective reading programs all had one important thing in common: systematic and explicit phonics instruction. They also concluded that systematic and explicit phonics instruction was especially effective and beneficial for children “at risk” for reading failure. The panel offered the following definition: “A program of systematic phonics instruction clearly identifies a carefully selected and useful set of letter-sound relationships and then organizes the introduction of these relationships into a logical instructional sequence.”

## Synthetic Phonics

For phonics instruction to be effective, phonemes must be separated from words and taught as individual entities. Knowing the individual sounds and their spelling(s) enables one to synthesize (build up) sounds to form words through a blending process.

For example:

sound = /s/ /ou/ /n/ /d/  
/s/ + /ou/ = sou  
sou + /n/ = soun  
soun + /d/ = sound

## Early Reading Success

With the introduction of each new phoneme, the student can read many new words using previously learned phonemes, ensuring a feeling of early success in reading. Each phoneme is then used over and over providing practice and integrated review. In a very short time, the student can read thousands of words.

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/t/	/ɔ/ o-e oa ōw	/b/	/ē/ ee ea e-e -y	/s/ ce ci cy	/p/	/i/ i-e -igh -y	/l/	/ā/ a-e ai ay	/r/ wr	/oo/ ou rue lue	/z/ s²	/d/	/-a-/ kn	/n/ kn	/h/	/-i-/ th¹/ th²	/-u-/ ä	/wh/	
oat toe tow	boat bow	be beat bee beet eat tea tee Toby	beats beets boats eats oats sea seat seats see so sow totes	beep east pea peep Pete post seep soap soapy steep teepee	bite by ice pie pipe sigh sight spice spite spy steep tie tight	blow bolt bowl eel leap lie light low peal peel pile ply pole poll seal sleep slight slightly slope slow steal steel stole tile toll	ace ape ate baby bail bale base bay lace late lay pace pail pale paste pay place plate play sail sale say slate slay space stale state stay tail tale tape taste	air bright ear leer or pair pray price pry race rail ray real reel rice right ripe roar roast robe role rope row spear spray stair stare store story stray street stripe stroll tear tire trace trail tray treat tree troll try write wrote	blue boo boot loop loot Lou pool root rue sloop soup spool stoop Sue too tool toot tour troop true you	breeze ears ease easy places plays please praise raise rose sighs size spaces sprays stairs stares steals stories tears tease ties tools tows trees tries zeal zoo	bead bold braid dare date day dear deep deer die died do doe dose doze drape laid load read ride road seed side spade tide toad today told trade	as at bad bass bat blast day dear dab dad daddy lad lap last pad pal pass past pat Patty rally rap rat sad salad Sally sap sat slab strap tab tap trap wrap	and balloon ban band bean bone brain dine drain kneel knight know land lane line lone nab nail nap near neat need needle nice night nine no noon noose nose note own pain pan pansy pants plan rain ran seen soon spoon stain stand tan tone train	had hail hair halo hand handle happy hare Harry has haste hat hate hay haze he heal heap hear heat heed heel here hide high hind hoe hold hole hoop hoot hope horn horse hose	bib bid bill bin bit did dip drill drip hid hill hip his hit in is it knit lily lint lip list lit pill pin pit prince print rib rid rip sill silly sip sis sit slid slip slit spill spirit splint split sprint still till tin tint tip	tiptoe trill trip zip	bath bathe booth both oath path teeth that the these they thin this those three throat throw tooth wrath wreath	a adult alas alone appear aside asleep blunt bud bun bus bust but buzz dull dust hull hunt hut nun nut panda plus pun punt pup putt rub run rust rut snub spun strut stub stun stunt sub suds sun thud thus trust tub up us	whale what wheat whee wheel wheeze while whim whine whinny whip whistle whit white whittle whiz whoa whoops why

/c <sup>1</sup> / k <sup>2</sup> ck <sup>3</sup>			/g/		/m/			/-e-/ ĕa			/ch/ tch		/œ/ u <sup>2</sup>	/aw/ au al augh		/ng/	/nk/	/er/ ir ur		/f/ ph	
back	kite	tick	bag	grown	aim	man	slime	ahead	mess	yelp	batch	inch	book	all	talk	along	bank	better	slur	after	flutter
bake	kitty	track	big	grub	beam	mane	slump	bear	met	yes	beach	itch	brook	balk	tall	angry	blank	bird	smirk	alphabet	fly
beak	lack	trick	brag	grunt	blame	map	smooth	bed	neck	yet	bench	latch	bull	ball	taught	bang	blink	birth	spur	beef	foam
bike	lake	truck	gain	gust	blimp	mare	stamp	beg	nest	zest	bleach	lunch	bully	bawl	taunt	belong	brink	blur	spurn	cliff	foe
black	leak	tuck	gale	igloo	bloom	mask	steam	bell	net		branch	match	cook	because	thaw	bring	bunk	blurb	spurt	deaf	fold
bleak	lick		gap	lag	boom	mat	stream	belt	peck		bunch	much	crook	brawl		buzzing	chunk	blurt	stern	drift	fond
brake	like		gas	lug	brim	math	stump	bend	peddle		catch	munch	good	call		clang	clank	burn	stir	elephant	food
brick	luck		gasp	nag	broom	may	sum	best	peg		chain	patch	hood	caught		clung	clink	burp	surprise	elf	fool
brisk	oak		gate	pig	bum	meal	tame	bet	pelt		chair	peach	hook	cause		gang	clunk	burst	teacher	face	foot
buck	pack		gaze	plug	bump	mean	team	bled	pen		chance	pinch	look	caw		gong	crank	chirp	term	fact	football
cab	peak		gear	rag	came	meat	time	blend	pep		chap	pitch	nook	chalk		hang	crank	church	terse	fad	for
cake	peek		geese	rig	camp	meek	tramp	bless	pest		chase	preach	pull	claw		hung	drink	churn	third	fade	fork
can	pick		glad	rug	clam	meet	trim	bread	pet		chat	punch	pulpit	crawl		king	drunk	circus	thirst	fail	fort
cane	pike		glare	sag	clamp	mice	whim	breath	press		cheap	ranch	put	dawn		long	dunk	clerk	thirty	faint	Frank
cap	poke		glass	snag	cramp	mild	zoom	cadet	read		cheat	reach	rook	draw		lung	flank	curb	thirsty	fair	free
cape	rack		glee	snug	cream	mile		cell	ready		check	rich	soot	drawl		rang	honk	curl	tiger	fake	freeze
case	rake		glide	tag	crime	milk		cent	red		cheep	scratch	stood	drawn		reading	hunk	curse	turn	false	fry
cast	risk		gloat	tug	damp	mind		crept	rent		cheer	search	took	gaunt		ring	ink	curt	turnip	fame	full
cat	sack		globe	zag	dim	sack		crest	rest		cheese	sitch		gnaw		rung	link	daughter	turtle	family	fun
clap	sake		glow	zig	dime	mine		dead	sell		cherry	snatch		hall		sang	mink	dirt	under	fan	fur
clean	seek		glue		dome	miss		deck	send		chess	stench		halt		sing	pink	earn	whirl	fast	gift
click	sick		go		dream	mist		den	sense		chest	stitch		haul		slang	plank	earth	yearn	fat	goof
cloak	silk		goal		drum	mitt		dent	sent		chestnut	stretch		haunt		sleeping	plunk	gather		fate	graph
clone	skate		goat		dump	moan		desk	set		chick	such		hawk		song	prank	girl		fear	hoof
cluck	skill		goes		game	moat		dread	sled		chicken	teach		launch		spring	rank	girth		feast	if
coal	skin		gold		gleam	mole		dress	slept		child	trench		laundry		sprung	rink	hamburger		feather	knife
coast	skip		goof		gloom	mood		egg	smell		children	which		law		sting	sank	heard		fed	leaf
coat	slack		goose		glum	moon		elm	speck		chilly	wrench		lawn		strength	sink	herb		feed	life
cold	sleek		grace		grim	moose		end	spell		chime			mall		string	skunk	herd		feel	lift
colt	slick		grade		grime	mop		get	spend		chimney			malt		strong	slink	hurl		fell	loaf
cone	snack		grain		groom	most		head	spent		chin			naught		strung	spank	hurry		felt	nifty
cool	snake		grand		gum	muck		health	spread		chip			naughty		telling	spunk	hurt		fence	phone
coop	sneak		grant		ham	mud		held	stem		choke			Paul		thing	stink	learn		fib	photo
cope	soak		grape		him	name		help	step		choose			paunch		wrong	sunk	leather		fiddle	phrase
crack	speak		grasp		home	plum		hem	stress		chore			pause			tank	letter		fifty	proof
creak	spike		grass		hum	plump		hen	suddenly		chose			paw			thank	lurk		fig	raft
creek	spoke		grate		hump	prime		instead	tell		chosen			pawn			think	master		fight	reef
cub	spook		gray		lamb	pump		kept	ten		chuckle			prawn			trinket	matter		file	roof
cut	stack		graze		lame	ram		knelt	tense		chug			raw			trunk	mister		film	safe
dike	stake		grease		lamp	ramp		lead	tent		chum			salt			uncle	mower		fine	self
duck	stick		greed		lime	rim		led	test		chunk			sauce			yank	murk		finger	sift
hike	streak		green		limp	roam		leg	them		clinch			saw				nurse		fire	spooft
keen	strike		greet		loom	room		lend	then		clutch			scrawl				paper		first	stiff
keep	stroke		grill		lump	same		less	thread		crunch			slaw				preacher		fist	stuff
kick	struck		grin		mad	scram		lest	when		crutch			small				purr		fit	trophy
kid	stuck		grind		made	scream		let	where		ditch			sprawl				purse		flat	
kilt	suck		grip		maid	seam		meant	wreck		drench			stalk				rooster		flea	
kind	tack		gripe		mail	seem		melt	wren		each			stall				sir		flee	
kiss	take		groan		main	slam		men	yell		hitch			staunch				sister		flip	
kit	thick		grow		make	slim		mend	yellow		hunch			straw				skirt		flow	

/ou/ ow		/w/		/u/ ew u-e		/v/		/-o-/ ar ä			/sh/ _ti_ _ci_		/j/ ge dge		/oi/ oy		/qu/ /x/		/s/	
about	pout	always	wise	beautiful	use	alive	violet	arch	garden	snob	action	shell	age	Jill	ahoy	quack	anxious	fox	Asia	
allow	powder	wad	wit	beauty	usual	arrive	violin	Arctic	gob	sob	ash	ship	badge	jingle	annoy	quail	ax	hex	casual	
anyhow	power	wade	with	blew	Utah	behave	visit	are	got	sock	ashamed	shirt	barge	job	avoid	quaint	box	lax	closure	
bounce	powerful	wag	woke	brew		brave	vote	ark	guard	sod	bash	shiver	binge	jog	boil	quake	exact	Max	collision	
bound	proud	wage	wood	bugle		cave	vowel	arm	hard	soft	blush	shock	budge	joke	boy	Quaker	exam	Mexican	decision	
bow	prowl	waist	wool	chew		clover	wave	art	harm	spark	brush	shone	bulge	jolly	broil	qualify	mix	measure		
brow	round	wait	word	crew		cove	weave	artist	harp	spot	bush	shoo	cabbage	jolt	choice	quality	example	mixture	occasion	
brown	scour	wake	work	cube		crave	wove	bar	hop	star	cash	shook	cage	judge	coil	quantity	exceed	next	pleasure	
chow	scout	walk	worn	cue		dive		bark	hot	starch	clash	shoot	change	jug	coin	quarrel	excess	ox	revision	
chowder	snout	wall	wow	cure		dove		barn	knob	start	crash	shop	courage	July	cowboy	quarry	excite	pox	treasure	
cloud	sound	wand		cute		drive		blob	knock	stock	crush	shore	cringe	jump	coy	quart	exclaim	relax	unusual	
clown	sour	want		dew		driver		block	knot	stomp	dash	short	damage	June	decoy	quarter	exclude	six	usual	
count	south	wasp		dude		drove		blond	lard	stop	dish	shot	danger	junk	destroy	quartz	excuse	tax	vision	
cow	sow	waste		due		evening		blot	lock	tar	fish	shout	dredge	jury	employ	queen	execute	Texas		
crouch	spout	watch		duke		five		bond	loft	tarp	flash	show	engineer	just	enjoy	quench	exempt	text		
crowd	sprout	water		dune		gave		bop	log	tart	fresh	shower	fringe	large	foil	query	exercise	textile		
crown	stout	way		few		give		botch	lot	throb	gash	shrimp	fudge	ledge	foist	quest	exert	texture		
down	towel	we		flew		grave		car	march	top	gosh	shrink	garage	lodge	hoist	question	exhale	wax		
drown	tower	weak		fuel		grove		card	mark	trot	gush	shut	gee	magic	join	quick	exile	x-ray		
flour	town	wealth		fume		have		carp	mart	want	lash	shutter	gem	manager	joint	quiet	exist			
flower	trounce	wear		fury		hive		cart	mob	water	leash	shy	general	merge	joy	quill	existence			
foul	trout	weather		fuse		leave		charm	mock	yard	mash	smash	gentle	message	joyful	quilt	exit			
found		web		future		live		chart	mom	yarn	mesh	social	genuine	nudge	loin	quirk	expand			
fowl		wee		grew		over		chomp	mop		mush	special	George	orange	loyal	quit	expect			
frown		weed		hue		pave		chop	nod		nation	splash	germ	package	moist	quite	expend			
gown		week		human		rave		clock	not		patient	trash	giant	page	noise	quiver	expense			
grouch		weep		humid		river		clod	notch		push	vacation	gigantic	passage	oil	quiz	expensive			
ground		weld		knew		rover		cob	on		rash	wash	ginger	pledge	oyster	quota	experiment			
growl		well		menu		save		cod	park		rush	wish	giraffe	purge	ploy	quote	expert			
hound		went		mule		serve		cop	part		sash		grudge	rage	point	request	expire			
hour		west		muse		seven		corn	party		shack		hedge	range	poise	require	explain			
house		wet		museum		sleeve		cot	plod		shade		hinge	singe	poison	squad	explode			
how		wick		music		stove		crock	plot		shadow		huge	sludge	rejoice	squalid	exploit			
howl		wicked		mute		vain		crop	pod		shake		jab	smudge	Roy	squall	explore			
loud		wide		new		valentine		dark	pomp		shall		Jack	stage	royal	squalor	export			
louse		wife		pew		valley		dart	pond		shallow		jacket	stingy	soil	square	expose			
meow		wig		produce		van		dock	pot		shame		jade	storage	soy	squash	express			
mouse		wiggle		pupil		vane		dog	prod		shampoo		jail	strange	spoil	squat	extend			
mouth		wild		pure		vase		doll	prop		shape		jam	stranger	toil	squawk	external			
noun		will		rescue		vat		dot	rob		share		Jane	surge	toy	squeak	extinct			
now		wilt		screw		vault		drop	rock		shark		January	trudge	voice	squeal	extol			
ouch		win		sure		veal		far	rod		sharp		jar	urgent	voyage	squeeze	extra			
ounce		wind		threw		vegetable		farm	romp		shave		jaw	village		squid	extract			
our		window		tube		velvet		father	rot		shawl		jay	wage		squint	extreme			
out		wine		Tuesday		vent		flock	scar		she		jeans	wedge		squirm	fax			
outside		wing		tune		verse		flop	scarf		shear		jeep			squirrel	fix			
owl		wink		unit		very		fog	slop		shed		jelly			squirt	fixture			
plow		winter		united		vest		fond	slot		sheep		jerk				flax			
pouch		wipe		unity		victim		frock	smart		sheet		jet				flexible			
pound		wire		unusual		vine		frog	smog		shelf		jig							