

Reading Comprehensions

Phonics

Pre-Entry & Entry 1

Learning Outcome: Students will recognise and use the phonic sounds at the top of the relevant worksheet

Instructions:



- Print the phonics worksheet for the relevant subject or topic and hand out to students.
- Read the words in the word study. Students repeat as a class then individually. Check for comprehension.
- Students take it in turns to read the text aloud sentence by sentence.
- Students do activities two to four individually, compare answers upon completion, then feedback as a class.
- Introduce 'The Telephone Game'. Explain that each number represents a word, and that you will give a six-number telephone number. Write 730475 on the board and read aloud each of the following words twice: e.g. "cot", "fear", "lead", "soot", "cot", "laid" (you can either read the whole set of words once and then again or repeat each word individually). N.B. There's no need to explain the meaning, focus is on sounds.
- Now pick two or three more 6-digit combinations, and go through the same process, but students must guess what the combination is afterwards. If time, students themselves can have a go in groups at creating their own combinations.

Long vowels A E I O U

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 0 | lead (i.e. metal) |
| 1 | island |
| 2 | coat |
| 3 | fear |
| 4 | soot |
| 5 | laid |
| 6 | Ireland |
| 7 | cot |
| 8 | fair |
| 9 | suit |

Short A, P, R, S, T

| | |
|---|---------|
| 0 | cap |
| 1 | cop |
| 2 | corn |
| 3 | sad |
| 4 | true |
| 5 | cape |
| 6 | cob |
| 7 | con |
| 8 | fad |
| 9 | through |

Short A, long I, P, AW, short I

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| 0 | cap |
| 1 | cop |
| 2 | island |
| 3 | raw |
| 4 | bit |
| 5 | cape |
| 6 | cob |
| 7 | Ireland |
| 8 | row (i.e. row of...) |
| 9 | bet |

F/PH, NG, CH, SH, soft TH

| | |
|---|-------|
| 0 | fail |
| 1 | stung |
| 2 | lunch |
| 3 | show |
| 4 | thin |
| 5 | sail |
| 6 | stun |
| 7 | lunge |
| 8 | sow |
| 9 | sin |

Short I, X, Y, soft S, Z

| | |
|---|-------|
| 0 | fit |
| 1 | eyes |
| 2 | plays |
| 3 | your |
| 4 | box |
| 5 | feet |
| 6 | ice |
| 7 | place |
| 8 | jaw |
| 9 | bots |

F/FF, L/LL, B, H, SS

| | |
|---|--------|
| 0 | off |
| 1 | hate |
| 2 | seal |
| 3 | kiss |
| 4 | pair |
| 5 | of |
| 6 | ate |
| 7 | sealed |
| 8 | kids |
| 9 | bear |

LONG A, LONG E, AIR, URE, ER

| | |
|---|-------|
| 0 | hay |
| 1 | steer |
| 2 | hair |
| 3 | sure |
| 4 | per |
| 5 | hate |
| 6 | steal |
| 7 | her |
| 8 | short |
| 9 | pair |

AW, PH, EW, NG, OI

| | |
|---|------|
| 0 | fawn |
| 1 | foot |
| 2 | new |
| 3 | bang |
| 4 | soil |
| 5 | farm |
| 6 | soot |
| 7 | nude |
| 8 | ban |
| 9 | sill |

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Phonics

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Learning Outcome: Students will recognise and use the phonic sounds at the top of the relevant worksheet

Differentiation

- Read out the text for the students before students read it out themselves.
- Put the weaker students into pairs or groups for completing activities two to four.
- For the word study, students could create their own close gaps using the extra vocabulary to ask another pair/group of students.

Next steps suggestions

- Get students to write a paragraph for homework using words from the lesson (and others, for higher level students) that use the same phonic sounds.
- Encourage students to use the new vocabulary in future lessons and reward students for incorporating the terms into other work.

Materials required

- Phonics sheet
- Whiteboard

HIS FIRST DATE

(LONG VOWELS – A E I O U)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

excuse

cake

meal

buy

find

phone

cold

date

see

juice



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

James goes to the supermarket every week. Today, he is buying food and drink for tonight, because he has a date with Amy. He decides to make a special meal. He holds his shopping list and walks around the supermarket buying what he needs. It's easy to find the orange juice and apple juice, because they are in the same place. He takes three cartons of cold orange juice and one carton of apple juice.

The next thing for James to get is a cake. He looks and looks but cannot find where they are. An employee walks past. "Excuse me," James says to him. "I cannot find cakes in this shop, where are they?" The employee shows him the correct aisle. "Thank you," James says. "Now I am ready for my date."

He goes home, prepares the meal, and sets the table. He realises he has no flowers - he forgot to buy some!

HIS FIRST DATE

(LONG VOWELS – A E I O U)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. This is his first time in the supermarket. | YES / NO |
| 2. The juice was cold. | YES / NO |
| 3. James finds a cake for the date. | YES / NO |
| 4. He has an excuse for having no flowers. | YES / NO |

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

| | | |
|-----|--|--|
| “a” | | |
| “e” | | |
| “i” | | |
| “o” | | |
| “u” | | |

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

1. This _____ is delicious – I want to eat more!
2. I couldn't _____ any pens because there weren't any in the shop.
3. She was angry at his _____ for forgetting her birthday.
4. His _____ stopped working, so he took it to a repair shop.

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| 0 lead | 5 laid |
| 1 island | 6 Ireland |
| 2 coat | 7 cot |
| 3 fear | 8 fair |
| 4 soot | 9 suit |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____

RATS IN THE ROOM

(A, P, R, S, T)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

and

pillow

replies

toilet

sea

seven

room

town

perfect

man



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

A man goes on holiday. He travels to a hotel in a town near the beach. The beach is beautiful, with deep blue sea and perfect golden sand. Soon he arrives at the hotel, parks his car, and goes inside.

The person at the front desk looks at him and smiles. “Hello, Sir. What is your name?”

“Tom Piper,” the man replies, “Here are my papers.”

“Very good, Mr. Piper, you are in room twelve. Breakfast is from seven to ten. If you have any questions, please ask me.”

The man walks into the room and screams. The bed and sofa are not clean, the toilet is not clean, the floor is not clean. Nothing is clean. As he turns to leave the room, he sees the tail of a rat moving on the pillow. He runs out of the hotel and says, “I will find another place to stay!”

RATS IN THE ROOM

(A, P, R, S, T)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

1. Does the man arrive by car? **YES / NO**
2. Does the hotel serve breakfast at nine? **YES / NO**
3. Is the room clean? **YES / NO**
4. Does the man want to stay in the hotel room? **YES / NO**

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

| | | |
|-----|-------|-------|
| "a" | _____ | _____ |
| "p" | _____ | _____ |
| "r" | _____ | _____ |
| "s" | _____ | _____ |
| "t" | _____ | _____ |

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

1. I put my head on a _____ when I sleep.
2. The _____ looks really cold. I don't want to swim in it!
3. I have _____ brothers and sisters – we are a big family.
4. Do you live in a small village or a large _____ ?

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| 0 cap | 5 cape |
| 1 cop | 6 cob |
| 2 corn | 7 con |
| 3 sad | 8 fad |
| 4 true | 9 through |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____

THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

(SHORT A, SHORT I, P, AW, LONG I)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

ball

kicks

parks

clapping

tired

into

tackles

playing

by

score



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, like every Sunday, Dan and his friends go to a local park with a ball. They love playing football, which is often called ‘the beautiful game’ by its fans and players. Everyone looks forward to this day.

The ten friends quickly decide the teams, and the game begins. The players run all around the park with lots of energy, shouting and clapping when a goal is scored. In the last few minutes of the game, the score is four goals each. Nick has the ball, and kicks it to Peter, but Dan tackles him and gets the ball, running as fast as he can. He passes to Joe, who shoots.... and the ball goes into the net. Dan’s team have won!

Dan smiles at his team, tired but happy for their success. “It really is the beautiful game,” he thinks.



THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

(SHORT A, SHORT I, P, AW, LONG I)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

1. Dan plays football every Sunday. YES / NO
2. There are eleven players. YES / NO
3. Dan scores the final goal. YES / NO
4. Dan feels tired after the game. YES / NO

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

short “a”

short “i”

“p”

“aw”

long “i”

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

1. The final _____ of the game was three goals to two.
2. Did you bring a _____ so we can play a game?
3. She always _____ really hard – it hurts!
4. They are _____ because you played well!

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| 0 cap | 5 cape |
| 1 cop | 6 cob |
| 2 island | 7 Ireland |
| 3 raw | 8 row (i.e. row of...) |
| 4 bit | 9 bet |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____

THE CRASH

(F/PH, NG, CH, SH, SOFT TH)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

exciting

crash

each

three

fails

phone

thick

wing

chicken

shocked



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

Jason is driving home from work. He is tired because of a long day at the office. He is thinking about what he wants for dinner – maybe a thick chicken soup or a warm fish pie. Both options sound delicious. Then he remembers his wife's words: "I will cook dinner tonight". A surprise, how exciting!

It is dark, and the road has a lot of ice on it. Jason is so focused on the food that he fails to see a car which is turning in front of him. He tries to slow down, but it's too late – the two cars crash into each other. The wing mirror of his car smashes to the ground. Luckily Jason and the other driver are safe, but shocked.

He picks up his phone and calls a company to fix his car. "We will be there in three hours," is the reply. Then, the phone runs out of battery. How will he explain this to his wife?

THE CRASH

(F/PH, NG, CH, SH, SOFT TH)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Jason is tired because he was at his job. | YES / NO |
| 2. The road is very icy. | YES / NO |
| 3. There are no problems with the cars after the crash. | YES / NO |
| 4. His phone is working at the end of the story. | YES / NO |

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

“f/ph”

“ng”

“ch”

“sh”

soft “th”

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

1. I was _____ when I heard he was leaving his job.
2. It's always _____ to go on holiday!
3. This _____ book will take me a long time to read!
4. He never _____ to make me smile when I feel sad.

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|---------|---------|
| 0 fail | 5 sail |
| 1 stung | 6 stun |
| 2 lunch | 7 lunge |
| 3 show | 8 sow |
| 4 thin | 9 sin |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____

A NEW JOB

(SHORT I, X, Y, SOFT S, Z)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

excited

arrives

list

yet

starts

you

answer

box

frozen

big



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

Victoria has a new job, which she is so excited about. She arrives at the office just before 9am. Her boss, Nick, meets her at the door and shows her around the building. It is a big open space, with an area to make coffee and tea and some rooms for meetings.

Soon after the tour, she starts to prepare her desk. She takes a box from her bag which contains some photos that she puts on her desk – she likes to have things that remind her of home. Then, she checks her email and starts doing work. She has lots of questions, and she writes them down to ask her workmates or boss.

Oh no! Her computer has frozen. “Don’t worry, we can fix your computer quickly,” says Nick. He sees her list of questions. “Here is a small booklet about the company. It will answer your questions about the job while you wait. Have you had any tea yet?”

A NEW JOB

(SHORT I, X, Y, SOFT S, Z)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. The first person that Victoria meets is her boss. | YES / NO |
| 2. Firstly, she puts some photos on her desk. | YES / NO |
| 3. Victoria's computer works perfectly. | YES / NO |
| 4. Nick gives Victoria a book with some help for her job. | YES / NO |

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

soft "s"

short "i"

"x"

"y"

"z"

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

1. I cannot eat this chicken – it is still _____.
2. Here is the _____ to your question.
3. I made a _____ of things I need to buy.
4. I haven't finished my work _____ – I need more time!

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|---------|---------|
| 0 fit | 5 feet |
| 1 eyes | 6 ice |
| 2 plays | 7 place |
| 3 your | 8 jaw |
| 4 box | 9 bots |

Round one: _____ **Round two:** _____ **Round three:** _____

A VISITOR COMES

(F/FF, L/LL, B, H, SS)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

late

hanging

bright

messy

difficult

bed

floor

metal

however

small



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

It's late at night, and Liam is sleeping. All is quiet and peaceful. The teenager's bedroom like any other eighteen-year-old's. Magazines are on the floor, his bed is messy, and there is a small spaceship hanging in the centre of the room. It feels a normal night. Tonight, however, everything changes.

Suddenly, a bright blue light fills his room. He wakes up, jumps straight out of bed and runs to the window. It is difficult to see because of the light, but... yes, there is something outside. A large metal circle is in the air. Liam stares at it with excitement – he cannot believe what he is seeing.

He runs out of the house, being careful not to wake up his family, and into the garden. The ship is coming closer to him, the blue light is focused on him. He cannot move. The ship lands, and the door slowly opens...

A VISITOR COMES

(F/FF, L/LL, B, H, SS)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Liam's bedroom is very tidy. | YES / NO |
| 2. He is very happy to see the spaceship. | YES / NO |
| 3. Liam wakes up his parents. | YES / NO |
| 4. The light of the ship is looking at Liam. | YES / NO |

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

“f/ff”

“i/ll”

“b”

“h”

“ss”

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

- Who is in the photo that is _____ in your living room?
- I like playing football. _____, I'm not very good at it.
- His hair is always _____, does he ever brush it?
- Oh no, I'm _____ for my appointment with my dentist!

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|--------|----------|
| 0 off | 5 of |
| 1 hate | 6 ate |
| 2 seal | 7 sealed |
| 3 kiss | 8 kids |
| 4 pair | 9 bear |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____

A DAY AT THE BEACH

(LONG E, AIR, URE, ER, LONG A)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

beach

flavours

sure

fair

dinner

furiously

order

street

tasty

hair



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

It is a bright and sunny day at the beach. Lee is walking down the street with his family and looking at the sea. He smiles, feeling the wind in his hair. His wife, Sarah, turns to him and says, “Why don’t we get an ice cream?” He nods, and says “Sure, why not?”

When they arrive, they see the ice cream shop is closed. On the door it says, ‘OUT TO LUNCH’. “That’s not fair!” says Lee, “It’s nearly dinner time! Speaking of dinner, who wants fish and chips?” The children shout “Yes!” and run towards the restaurant.

The restaurant is busy, but they find a table and sit down. The waiter takes their order, and they enjoy a tasty meal. After they finish, the waiter asks if they want any dessert. Lee asks, “What do you have available?” The waiter gives them a menu each. The first thing they see is “ice cream – four flavours”. Everyone chooses a different one. “This is the best day ever!” says Lee.



A DAY AT THE BEACH

(LONG E, AIR, URE, ER, LONG A)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Lee is with his wife and children. | YES / NO |
| 2. The ice-cream shop is open. | YES / NO |
| 3. The meal that the family eats tastes bad. | YES / NO |
| 4. The family order ice cream for dessert. | YES / NO |

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

| | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| long “a” | _____ | _____ |
| long “e” | _____ | _____ |
| “air” | _____ | _____ |
| “ure” | _____ | _____ |
| “er” | _____ | _____ |

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

- “Why are you so late?” he shouted _____.
- Are you _____ that he is coming to the party?
- The company got my _____ wrong – I wanted a different book!
- There are three _____ of chewing gum – mint, watermelon and strawberry.

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|---------|---------|
| 0 hay | 5 hate |
| 1 steer | 6 steal |
| 2 hair | 7 her |
| 3 sure | 8 short |
| 4 per | 9 pair |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____

IN THE LION'S DEN

(AW, PH, EW, NG, OI)

Word Study: Practise reading these words out loud

always

spoil

learning

few

elephant

songbirds

pheasant

you

hawk

koi



Activity one – Read the text aloud.

“I have a surprise,” says Phil, a father of three children. “Tell us!” the children shout. Phil smiles, and says, “That would spoil the surprise for you.” The family drive for two hours, and finally arrive at the surprise place. Today will be a fun day - the Hawthorn family are going to the zoo!

There are five Hawthorns: the father, Phil; the mother, Lucy, and three children. The youngest, Sean, always gets lost. The other two, Ethan and Grace, are more sensible. They stay close to their parents as they see all the colourful animals. They see hawks and macaws, elephants and pheasants, songbirds and koi fish. The children are having an amazing time and learning a lot about the animals. After walking for a while, they decide to stop for a few minutes.

“Wait”, says Lucy, “Where is Sean?” They look around – he is walking towards the lion cage! Oh no!

IN THE LION'S DEN

(AW, PH, EW, NG, OI)

Activity two – How much do you understand? Circle YES or NO.

1. The children know what the surprise is. YES / NO
2. There are five people in the Hawthorn family. YES / NO
3. Sean is the most sensible child. YES / NO
4. The family do not know where Sean is until they find him with the lions. YES / NO

Activity three – Match the words in the word study to the sound.

| | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| “aw” | _____ | _____ |
| “ph” | _____ | _____ |
| “ew” | _____ | _____ |
| “ng” | _____ | _____ |
| “oi” | _____ | _____ |

Activity four – Match the words in the word study to the sentences.

1. Some families in the UK eat _____ as part of a Sunday lunch.
2. He _____ brushes his teeth – it happens every day.
3. What are you _____ about in school?
4. He didn't say what the gift was, because he didn't want to _____ it.

Activity five – Write down the numbers you hear from your teacher.

| | |
|--------|--------|
| 0 fawn | 5 farm |
| 1 foot | 6 soot |
| 2 new | 7 nude |
| 3 bang | 8 ban |
| 4 soil | 9 sill |

Round one: _____ Round two: _____ Round three: _____