

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

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X
Y
Z

Blumenfeld's
Alpha-Phonics

**A Primer for
Beginning Readers**

Samuel L. Blumenfeld

*An effective, step-by-step, intensive
phonics program for teaching
reading to beginners of all ages.*

Workbook

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

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WORKBOOK

The Blumont Company
Littleton, Massachusetts

Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics®
Workbook

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The Blumont Company
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Alpha-Phonics
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CONTENTS

Preface	v
The Alphabet	viii
Pre-reading Alphabet Exercises	
Student's Lessons	3
Order of Lessons	133
English Alphabetic System	136
Common Spelling Forms	
Introducing Cursive	139
Cursive Alphabet	
About the Author	142
Instruction Manual	1-38

Dedicated to the
Memory of

Watson Washburn
Eleanor "Yie" Parkman
Bettina Rubicam
and
Rudolf Flesch

*For their untiring efforts
to restore intensive phonics in
primary reading instruction.*

PREFACE

Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics was created to provide parents, teachers and tutors with a sensible, logical, easy-to-use system for teaching reading. It is an intensive phonics instruction program based on the author's many years of research and experience in the reading instruction field. It answers the need for a practical instruction program that anyone who wants to teach reading can learn to use with a minimum of training.

This *Alpha-Phonics Workbook* is the centerpiece of the program and contains all of the lessons to be learned by the student. The instructions for teaching the lessons will be found in the *Alpha-Phonics Instruction Manual* created for easy use by parents, teachers, and tutors. The same instruction is given on the Audio Lesson Tapes, which can be used by parents and teachers unfamiliar with phonics and also by nonreaders for self instruction.

The *Workbook* teaches our alphabetic system — with its 26 letters and 44 sounds — in the following sequence: First, the alphabet, then the short vowels and consonants, the consonant digraphs, followed by the consonant blends, and finally the long vowels in their variety of spellings and our other vowels.

This program can be used to teach reading to beginners of all ages, older students in need of remediation, nonreaders, adults who wish to improve their reading skills, dyslexics, the learning disabled, and non-English speakers who wish to learn to read English and improve their pronunciation.

It can also be used as a supplement to any other reading program being used in the classroom. Its systematic approach to teaching basic phonetic skills makes it particularly valuable to programs that lack such instruction.

The program's step-by-step lessons in large, easy-to-read print make it suitable for both direct one-on-one tutoring and regular classroom use. Parents who wish to teach their children to read at home will find the many learning tools included with the program particularly helpful.

All of the lesson pages were carefully designed to eliminate distraction and help the learner focus his or her attention on the work at hand. The program, as a whole, is flexible enough so that any parent, teacher, or tutor can adapt it to his or her own teaching style or situation.

If you have never taught reading before in this sensible, systematic way, you **will be** pleasantly surprised by the results.

— Samuel L. Blumenfeld

The
Alphabet
and
Pre-reading
Alphabet Exercises

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg

Hh Ii Jj Kk

Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp

Qq Rr Ss

Tt Uu Vv

Ww

Xx Yy Zz

A B C D
E F G
H I J K
L M N O P
Q R S
T U V
W
X Y Z

Capital Letters
(Also known as upper case letters)

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

Small Letters
(Also known as lower case letters)

Pre-reading Alphabet Exercises

A
B
C
B
C
C
C
D
E
F
F
F
F
E
F

B
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A
C
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M	N	O
M	O	M
O	N	N
N	O	M
N	M	O
O	M	O
O	O	N
O	N	M
P	Q	R
R	P	Q
Q	Q	P
Q	P	Q
R	R	P
R	P	R
P	R	P
R	P	P

m	n	o
m	o	m
o	n	n
n	o	m
n	m	o
o	m	o
o	o	n
o	n	m
p	q	r
r	p	q
q	q	p
q	p	q
r	r	p
r	p	r
p	r	p
r	p	p

S	T	U
S	U	S
T	S	U
T	U	T
T	S	S
S	T	S
U	T	S
U	U	S

s	t	u
s	u	s
t	s	u
t	u	t
t	s	s
s	t	s
u	t	s
u	u	s

V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	V	W	X	X
W	W	Y	Z	X
W	Y	W	Y	Z
X	Y	Z	V	V
Y	Z	Y	X	V
Z	X	Y	X	W
W	Z	X	Y	V

v	w	x	y	z
z	v	w	x	x
w	w	y	z	x
w	y	w	y	z
x	y	z	v	v
y	z	y	x	v
z	x	y	x	w
w	z	x	y	v

Blumenfeld's
Alpha-Phonics
Student's Lessons

a → m → am

a → n → an

a → s → as

a → t → at

a → x → ax

Aa

Mm

Nn

Ss

Tt

Xx

Lesson 2

S → am → Sam

m → an → man

h → as → has

s → at → sat

t → ax → tax

Hh

Lesson 3

am	an	as	at	ax
Sam	man	has	sat	tax

Sam sat.

Sam has an ax.

Lesson 4

a	→	d	→	ad
d	→	ad	→	dad
w	→	ax	→	wax
D	→	an	→	Dan

Dan sat.

Dad has wax.

Dd Ww

Lesson 5

ad	am	an	as	at	ax
had	ham	man	has	hat	tax
dad	dam	Dan	was	sat	wax
sad	Sam	tan		mat	Max
Tad					
mad					

ad	dad	had	mad	sad	Tad
am	dam	ham	man	sat	tan
an	Dan	has	mat	Sam	tax
as		hat	Max		
at					
ax					

was

wax

Dad sat.

Max had ham.

Dan was tan.

Was Sam tan?

Has Dad an ax?

Dad has an ax.

Dan has wax.

Sam was sad.

Was Max mad?

Tad was tan.

Lesson 7

an → d → and

h → and → hand

l → and → land

s → and → sand

Dan and Dad had land and sand.

Dan and Sam

Max and Tad

tax and wax

land and sand

Ll

A	→ l	→	Al
H	→ al	→	Hal
S	→ al	→	Sal

Bb

b	→ ad	→	bad
b	→ an	→	ban
b	→ and	→	band
b	→ at	→	bat

Cc

c	→ ab	→	cab
c	→ ad	→	cad
C	→ al	→	Cal
c	→ at	→	cat
c	→ an	→	can

Lesson 8

(Continued)

Gg

g → ab → gab

g → ad → gad

g → ag → gag

g → al → gal

g → as → gas

Ff

Jj

Ll

Nn

fad

jam

lab

nab

fan

Jan

lad

nag

fat

jab

lag

Nat

fax

jag

Pp	Rr	Tt
pad	rag	tab
pal	ram	Tab
Pam	ran	Tad
pan	rap	tag
pat	rat	tan
Pat		tap
		tax

Vv	Ww	Yy	Zz
Val	wag	yak	zag
van	wax	yam	zap
vat	was	yap	

Kk

Lesson 10

ab	ad	ag	ak	Al
cab	bad	bag	yak	Cal
dab	cad	gag		gal
gab	dad	jag		Hal
jab	fad	lag		pal
lab	gad	nag		Sal
nab	had	rag		Val
tab	lad	sag		
	mad	tag		
	pad	wag		
	sad	zag		
	Tad			

Lesson 10

(Continued)

am	an	ap	as
cam	ban	cap	gas
dam	can	gap	has
ham	Dan	lap	was
jam	fan	map	bass
Pam	Jan	nap	lass
ram	man	rap	pass
Sam	pan	sap	
yam	ran	tap	
	tan	yap	
	van	zap	

Lesson 10

(Continued)

at	ax	az	and
bat	fax	Yaz	band
cat	lax	jazz	hand
fat	Max		land
hat	tax		sand
mat			
Nat			
pat			
rat			
sat			
vat			

Lesson 11

ck

ack	Mack	tack
back	pack	yack
hack	rack	Zack
Jack	sack	
lack		

qu

quack

Lesson 12

a

a cat

a hat

a bat

a cap

a pan

a pal

a bag

a rag

a cab

a map

Qu qu

Lesson 13

Al can bat.

Jack has a sack.

Pam has a fat cat.

Val has jam.

Jan has a cap.

Cal has a hat.

Yaz can bat.

Mack has a jazz band.

Yaz can yack.

Jack has a back-pack.

Can Yaz bat?

ab	bab	cab	dab
ac	bac	cac	dac
ack	back	cack	dack
ad	bad	cad	dad
af	baf	caf	daf
ag	bag	cag	dag
al	bal	cal	dal
am	bam	cam	dam
an	ban	can	dan
ap	bap	cap	dap
as	bas	cas	das
at	bat	cat	dat
av	bav	cav,	dav
ax	bax	cax	dax
az	baz	caz	daz

Lesson 14

(Continued)

fab	gab	hab	jab
fac	gac	hac	jac
fack	gack	hack	jack
fad	gad	had	jad
faf	gaf	haf	jaf
fag	gag	hag	jag
fal	gal	hal	jal
fam	gam	ham	jam
fan	gan	han	jan
fap	gap	hap	jap
fas	gas	has	jas
fat	gat	hat	jat
fav	gav	hav	jav
fax	gax	hax	jax
faz	gaz	haz	jaz

Lesson 14

(Continued)

kab	lab	mab	nab
kac	lac	mac	nac
kack	lack	mack	nack
kad	lad	mad	nad
kaf	laf	maf	naf
kag	lag	mag	nag
kal	lal	mal	nal
kam	lam	mam	nam
kan	lan	man	nan
kap	lap	map	nap
kas	las	mas	nas
kat	lat	mat	nat
kav	lav	may	nav
kax	lax	max	nax
kaz	laz	maz	naz

Lesson 14

(Continued)

pab	rab	sab	tab
pac	rac	sac	tac
pack	rack	sack	tack
pad	rad	sad	tad
paf	raf	saf	taf
pag	rag	sag	tag
pal	ral	sal	tal
pam	ram	sam	tam
pan	ran	san	tan
pap	rap	sap	tap
pas	ras	sas	tas
pat	rat	sat	tat
pav	rav	sav	tav
pax	rax	sax	tax
paz	raz	saz	taz

Lesson 14

(Continued)

vab	wab	yab	zab
vac	wac	yac	zac
vack	wack	yack	zack
vad	--	yad	zad
vaf	waf	yaf	zaf
vag	wag	yag	zag
val	wal	yal	zal
vam	wam	yam	zam
van	--	yan	zan
vap	wap	yap	zap
vas	--	yas	zas
vat	--	yat	zat
vav	wav	yav	zav
vax	wax	yax	zax
vaz	waz	yaz	zaz

Lesson 15

<u>a</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>u</u>
bad	bed	bid	Bob	bud
bag	beg	big	bog	bug
hat	hen	hit	hot	hut
pan	pen	pin	pop	pun
sat	set	sit	sock	sun
Nat	net	nit	not	nut
ban	Ben	bin	bop	bun
bat	bet	bit	box	but
pat	pet	pit	pot	pup
pack	peck	pick	pock	puck
dad	deck	did	dock	dud
tack	Ted	tick	tock	tuck
hack	hen	hick	hock	huck
ham	hem	him	hop	hum
Dan	den	din	Don	duck
lag	leg	lip	log	lug
lack	let	lick	lock	luck
ran	red	rib	rob	rub

Short e

eb	eck	Ed	eff	egg	ell
Deb	beck	bed	Jeff	beg	bell
web	deck	fed		keg	cell
	neck	led		leg	dell
	peck	Ned		Meg	fell
		red		peg	jell
		Ted			sell
		wed			tell
					well
					yell

cell
sell

Lesson 16

(Continued)

em	en	end	ep	et	ex
gem	Ben	bend	hep	bet	Rex
hem	den	fend	pep	get	Tex
	fen	lend	rep	jet	vex
	hen	mend		let	
	Jen	rend		met	
	Ken	send	es	net	
	Len	tend	yes	pet	
	men	wend	Bess	set	
	pen		less	vet	
	ten		mess	wet	
	yen			yet	

Bess fed Jack an egg.

Let Jeff tell Ben.

Can Rex tell Pam?

Deb had an egg.

Dad let Ken get wet.

Deb has a red pen.

Send Len an ax.

Lend Jen a pet.

Ben has a jet.

Rex fell.

Tell Bess yes.

Deb can yell.

Ted has a cat as a pet.

Get Jeff a keg.

Tex and Len set a net.

Bess has less.

Ten men met.

Lesson 18

beb	ceb	deb	feb	heb
bec	cec	dec	fec	hec
beck	ceck	deck	feck	heck
bed	ced	ded	fed	hed
bef	cef	def	fef	hef
beg	ceg	deg	feg	heg
bel	cel	del	fel	hel
bem	cem	dem	fem	hem
ben	cen	den	fen	hen
bep	cep	dep	fep	hep
bes	ces	des	fes	hes
bet	cet	det	fet	het
bev	cev	dev	fev	hev
bex	cex	dex	fex	hex
bez	cez	dez	fez	hez

Lesson 18

(Continued)

jeb	keb	leb	meb	neb
jec	kec	lec	mec	nec
jeck	keck	leck	meck	neck
jed	ked	led	med	ned
jef	kef	lef	mef	nef
jeg	keg	leg	meg	neg
jel	kel	lel	mel	nel
jem	kem	lem	mem	nem
jen	ken	len	men	nen
jep	kep	lep	mep	nep
jes	kes	les	mes	nes
jet	ket	let	met	net
jev	kev	lev	mev	nev
jex	kex	lex	mex	nex
jez	kez	lez	mez	nez

Lesson 18

(Continued)

peb	queb	reb	seb	teb
pec	quec	rec	sec	tec
peck	queck	reck	seck	teck
ped	qued	red	sed	ted
pef	quef	ref	sef	tef
peg	queg	reg	seg	teg
pel	quel	rel	sel	tel
pem	quem	rem	sem	tem
pen	quen	ren	sen	ten
pep	quep	rep	sep	tep
pes	ques	res	ses	tes
pet	quet	ret	set	tet
pev	quev	rev	sev	tev
pex	quex	rex	sex	tex
pez	quez	rez	sez	tez

Lesson 18

(Continued)

veb	web	yeb	zeb
vec	wec	yec	zec
veck	weck	yeck	zeck
ved	wed	yed	zed
vef	wef	yef	zef
veg	weg	yeg	zeg
vel	wel	yel	zel
vem	wem	yem	zem
ven	wen	yen	zen
vep	wep	yep	zep
ves	wes	yes	zes
vet	wet	yet	zet
vev	wev	yev	zev
vex	wex	yex	zex
vez	wez	yez	zez

Lesson 19

Short i

ib	ick	id	if	ig
bib	Dick	bid	Jiff	big
fib	hick	did	miff	dig
jib	kick	hid	tiff	fig
rib	lick	kid		gig
	Mick	lid		jig
	Nick	mid		pig
	pick	rid		rig
	quick	Sid		wig
	Rick			zig
	sick			
	tick			
	wick			

zig-zag

Lesson 19

(Continued)

ill	im	in	ip	is
Bill	dim	bin	dip	his
bill	him	fin	hip	sis
dill	Jim	kin	kip	
fill	Kim	pin	Kip	iss
gill	rim	sin	lip	hiss
hill	Tim	tin	nip	kiss
Jill	vim	win	pip	miss
mill			quip	
pill			rip	
quill			sip	
rill			tip	
sill			zip	
till				
will				

Lesson 19

(Continued)

it	ix	iz		Ph
bit	fix	Liz	quick	Phil
fit	mix	quiz	quill	Philip
hit	nix	fizz	quip	
kit	six		quit	
lit			quiz	
pit				
quit				
sit				
wit				

Ph ph

Quick, Rick, fix it.

Tim bit his lip.

Nick is sick.

Nick will get well.

Will Bill tell Jill?

Sid will miss his pet pig.

His pig is big.

Jim is big.

His hat fit him well.

Phil hid his hat.

Jack hid his ham in his hat.

Liz was sick and was fed in bed.

Mix it, fix it, and quit it.

Will Bill win?

Yes, Bill will win.

Is Jill ill?

Yes, Jill is ill.

Lesson 21

th

th	→	at	→	that
th	→	an	→	than
th	→	e	→	the
th	→	em	→	them
th	→	en	→	then
th	→	is	→	this
th	→	in	→	thin
th	→	ick	→	thick
ba	→	th	→	bath
ma	→	th	→	math
pa	→	th	→	path
Be	→	th	→	Beth
Se	→	th	→	Seth
wi	→	th	→	with

That man has a cat.

The cat is a big cat.

The cat is a thin cat.

This is his cat.

This is Beth.

Tell them that Rex is at bat.

The cat is in the bag.

Did Beth tell them that the cat
is in the bag?

Rick hid the bag with the cat.

The cat ran.

Let the cat dig in the sand.

The pig ran with the cat.

Dick ran with the bag in his hand.

Phil was with Beth and Seth.

Then Beth and Seth ran with the hen.

Quick, get the thick net.

Lesson 23

Short o

ob	ock	od	of	og	oll
Bob	dock	cod	off	cog	doll
cob	hock	mod		dog	loll
job	lock	nod		fog	
gob	mock	rod		hog	
mob	pock	sod		jog	
rob	rock	Todd		log	
sob	sock				

tick-tock

Lesson 23

(Continued)

om	on	op	ot	ox
mom	Don	cop	cot	box
Tom	Ron	hop	dot	fox
	son	mop	got	lox
	ton	pop	hot	pox
	won	top	jot	
			lot	
			not	
			pot	
			rot	
			tot	

pom-pom
Red Sox

Lesson 24

The quick fox got on top of the box.

The red hen fell in the bath and
got wet.

The Red Sox will win.

Yaz will win.

Tom is the son of Jack.

The dog ran with the cat.

The pot got hot.

Is the dog in the box?

The dog is not in the box.

The dog is on top of the box.

Bob and Don sat on the dock.

Tell Mom that Bob has the mop.

That fox is in the big tin box.

That box has a lock on it.

Quick, lock the box.

But the fox ran.

s

cat	→ s	→	cats
dog	→ s	→	dogs
pet	→ s	→	pets
wig	→ s	→	wigs
pig	→ s	→	pigs
pill	→ s	→	pills
pot	→ s	→	pots
pan	→ s	→	pans
hand	→ s	→	hands

es

kiss	→ es	→	kisses
box	→ es	→	boxes
tax	→ es	→	taxes
fox	→ es	→	foxes

's

Don	→ 's	→	Don's hat
Bob	→ 's	→	Bob's dog
Jack	→ 's	→	Jack's pet
Jill	→ 's	→	Jill's cat

Lesson 26

The man has ten cats and six dogs.

Jill has six hens.

Jim's pet pig is big.

Don kisses his mom.

Pam's cat is fat.

Pat has ten pins.

Jack has six boxes of eggs.

Mom has ten pots and six pans.

Rex's hat is red.

The dog ran with the foxes.

Val's dog was in the pen.

Short u

ub	ud	ug	ull	um	un
cub	bud	bug	cull	gum	bun
dub	dud	dug	dull	hum	fun
hub	mud	hug	gull	mum	gun
pub		jug	hull	sum	pun
rub		lug	bull		run
sub		mug	full		sun
tub		rug	pull		
		tug			

up	us	ut	ux	uzz
cup	bus	but	lux	buzz
pup	Gus	cut		fuzz
	pus	hut		
	fuss	mutt		
	muss	nut		
		put		

Lesson 28

The dog dug in the mud and had fun.
Tom's dad put the pup in the tub.
Can Jack pull the big log up the hill?
Jack and Jill ran up the hill.
The red jug is full.
The dog got mud on the rug.
Bud's dog fell in the tub.
Gus put the mug on the rug.
Rick hugs his pup.
The sun was up at six.
The tub is full of mud.
The bug dug in the rug.
A big bull is in the pen.
Val put the mud in the tub.

Lesson 28a

bad	bed	did	bob	dud
dad	deb	bid	bod	dub
dab	ded	bib	dod	bud
bab	beb	dib	dob	bub

sh**a → sh**

ash	mesh	dish	gosh	gush
bash		fish	Josh	hush
cash		wish	posh	mush
dash				rush
gash				bush
lash				push
mash				
rash				
sash				
wash				

sh → ag

shag	shed	shin	shock	shun
sham	shell	ship	shop	shut
shall			shot	
shack				

Lesson 30

ch

ch → ap

chap	check	chick	chop	chuck
chat	chess	chill		chug
		chin		chum
		chip		

ri → ch

rich	much
	such

Lesson 31

wh

wh → en

when
whack

what

which
whim
whiff
whip
whiz

cash

what

ship

rich

shut

dish

chill

wish

rush

when

dash

mush

chum

mash

chug

fish

chop

shop

much

rash

which

shell

when

chick

such

shed

shun

chip

shag

whim

chess

shock

chuck

shack

chug

what

chin

check

which

ash

shot

chap

whip

hush

whack

Lesson 33

Don had fish and chips.

Which dish is Dad's?

Which dish has the fish in it?

This dish is full of chips.

Pam sat on the deck of the ship.

Don has a chill. Bud has a rash.

Rick has cash and is rich.

Bud is his chum.

His chin is thin.

He hid the dish of fish in the shed.

When will Jim shut the shop?

The shop will shut when it is six.

Chuck is in the shack.

Dad has a chess set.

Chuck will wash the ship.

Pam will pull the dog off the ship.

Did Bess check the shack?

Bess did check the shack.

I am

you are

he is

she is

we are

they are

I have

you have

he has

she has

we have

they have

I was

you were

he was

she was

we were

they were

I had

you had

he had

she had

we had

they had

Lesson 35

I have a cat.

She has a dog.

We have a cat and a dog.

They have six pets.

You have a pet pig.

Are you sick?

No, I am well.

She put the pup on the bed.

The pets were in the tub.

They were in the hut.

He had a rash.

Did you get sick?

No, I did not get sick.

Did she win?

Yes, she won.

Lesson 36

is not	—————→	isn't
can not	—————→	can't
has not	—————→	hasn't
it is	—————→	it's
let us	—————→	let's
did not	—————→	didn't

Lesson 37

Is Bill sad?	Bill isn't sad.
Is this Peg's dog?	No, this isn't Peg's dog.
Is it Jill's dog?	Yes, it's Jill's dog.
Has Peg a cat?	Peg hasn't a cat.
Can they run?	They can't run.
Did Jill run?	Jill didn't run.
Let's not jog.	Let's run.

Lesson 38

hot-dog	hotdog
box-top	boxtop
zig-zag	zigzag
cat-nip	catnip
tick-et	ticket
hel-met	helmet
vel-vet	velvet
tom-cat	tomcat
gal-lop	gallop
les-son	lesson
nap-kin	napkin
tid-bit	tidbit
hab-it	habit
rap-id	rapid
gal-lon	gallon
can-did	candid
bas-ket	basket
bon-net	bonnet

(Continued)

ton-ic	tonic
mag-ic	magic
un-fit	unfit
gob-lin	goblin
rob-in	robin
chap-el	chapel
pic-nic	picnic
kid-nap	kidnap
lin-en	linen
vis-it	visit
rab-bit	rabbit
nit-wit	nitwit
viv-id	vivid
civ-il	civil
Nix-on	Nixon
len-til	lentil
pen-cil	pencil

Lesson 38

(Continued)

egg-nog

eggnog

com-et

comet

pup-pet

puppet

up-set

upset

lock-et

locket

mim-ic

mimic

pub-lic

public

sun-tan

suntan

sud-den

sudden

hat-box

hatbox

sun-set

sunset

hat-rack

hatrack

bash-ful

bashful

den-tal

dental

un-til

until

vom-it

vomit

hus-band

husband

wag-on

wagon

(Continued)

ex-it

exit

Phil-ip

Philip

riv-et

rivet

with-in

within

Cal-vin

Calvin

tab-let

tablet

pack-et

packet

rock-et

rocket

sock-et

socket

van-ish

vanish

pan-el

panel

Ja-pan

Japan

ras-cal

rascal

cac-tus

cactus

cam-el

camel

Kev-in

Kevin

Kar-en

Karen

rib-bon

ribbon

Lesson 38

(Continued)

rad-ish	radish
mas-cot	mascot
com-bat	combat
Pat-rick	Patrick
rel-ish	relish
lem-on	lemon
pock-et	pocket
traf-fic	traffic
bob-cat	bobcat
sig-nal	signal
lim-it	limit
li-quid	liquid
sat-in	satin
tun-nel	tunnel
cab-in	cabin
jack-et	jacket
pad-lock	padlock

Jill has a picnic basket full of
hotdogs and relish.

Philip has a suntan.

Kevin is a rascal.

Karen and Ken will visit dad.

Calvin put the pencil in his
jacket pocket.

Bill's mascot is a rabbit.

Don put a red ribbon on his cat.

Mom has a red satin bonnet.

Peg's husband has a wagon.

The camel sat on the cactus.

Pam can mimic a puppet.

Deb has a red velvet sash.

Jim has a gallon of lemon tonic.

Let's visit Patrick's dad.

It was a vivid sunset.

Lesson 40

a as in all

Al	all	ball
Cal	call	fall
gal	gall	mall
Hal	hall	tall
pal	pall	wall

Cal's pal Tim is tall.

Did Hal fall?

Cal has the ball.

Cal hit the ball with the bat.

Philip sat on the wall.

His jacket is in the hall.

Call Cal.

Tell Cal that his ball is in the hall.

Is the ball in his jacket pocket?

Yes, it is.

ng

ang	ing	ong	ung
bang	bing	bong	hung
gang	ding	gong	lung
hang	king	long	rung
pang	ping	song	sung
rang	ring		
sang	sing		
	wing		
	zing		

ding-dong
ping-pong
sing-song

wing-ding
Hong Kong

Deb sang a song.
Ron rang the bell.
The song was sung.
The king can sing.
The gang sang.
Tim is in Hong Kong.

Lesson 41

(Continued)

Wash-ing-ton Washington

dab	dabbing	ring	ringing
gab	gabbing	sing	singing
rob	robbing	run	running
rub	rubbing	sun	sunning
pack	packing	nap	napping
pick	picking	tap	tapping
lock	locking	chip	chipping
rock	rocking	chop	chopping
bid	bidding	ship	shipping
kid	kidding	shop	shopping
dig	digging	fish	fishing
rig	rigging	wish	wishing
call	calling	wash	washing
fall	falling	rush	rushing
sell	selling	pass	passing
yell	yelling	toss	tossing
chill	chilling	fit	fitting
will	willing	quit	quitting
bang	banging	fix	fixing
hang	hanging	mix	mixing

Jan is singing a song.
Bill is ringing the bell.
Peg is getting all wet.
Rick is kicking the ball.
The cat is licking his leg.
Bob is calling his dog.
Jack is yelling at Jill.
Pat is packing his bag.
Cal is passing the ball.
Chuck is fixing the shack.
Meg is petting the cat.
Is Mom shopping at the mall?
Dad is chopping with his ax.
Jill is napping on the bed.
Bess is washing her doll.
Philip is dabbing at the sand.
Was Kim digging in the mud?

Lesson 43

nd

and	end	wind	bond	fund
band	bend		fond	
hand	fend		pond	
land	lend			
sand	mend			
wand	rend			
	send			
	tend			

nt

ant	bent	pent	hint	bunt
pant	cent	rent	lint	hunt
rant	dent	sent	mint	punt
want	gent	tent	tint	runt
	Kent	vent		
	lent	went		

Bill is mending his tent.

Kent went hunting.

Jack went with Kent.

Bob lent Ann his fishing rod.

Ann is fishing at the pond.

Bob wants his rod back.

Bob went to the pond.

Jill is fond of Philip.

Philip sent Jill a bag of mints.

The cat sat on the ant hill.

Beth is running in the wind.

Kent is in the band.

Mom will mend Pam's socks.

Lesson 45

er

her

let-ter

letter

bet-ter

better

hunt-er

hunter

lend-er

lender

send-er

sender

but-ter

butter

ten-der

tender

chat-ter

chatter

big-ger

bigger

sum-mer

summer

win-ter

winter

sis-ter

sister

Butter is better.

Ken has a sister.

Her hat is bigger.

Bill sent a letter.

Her dad is a hunter.

Summer is better than winter.

Lesson 46

nk

nch

bank	ink	honk	ranch	bunch
Hank	kink	bunk	bench	hunch
lank	link	dunk	inch	lunch
rank	mink	hunk	finch	munch
sank	pink	junk	pinch	punch
tank	rink			
yank	sink			
	wink			

nc

zinc

Lesson 47

Hank put cash in the bank.
Bob put gas in the tank.
Beth put the dish in the sink.
Bill had a bunch of junk.
Dan sat on a bench.
Dad has a ranch.
Tim had lunch with Bess.
Bev had punch with her lunch.
Pam has the top bunk.

Lesson 48

ct	ft	pt	xt
act	aft	apt	next
fact	raft	kept	text
pact	left	wept	
tact	gift		
duct	lift		
	rift		
	sift		
	loft		
	soft		

Bill got a raft as a gift.
He left his raft at the pond.
The raft is big.
Can Bill lift the raft?
The fact is that he can't.
But Jack and Bill can lift the raft.
Ann got a gift.
Jan will get the next gift.
Can Beth act? Yes, she can.
Liz will sift the sand.

sk**sp****st**

ask	asp	cast	pest	list
bask	gasp	fast	test	mist
cask	rasp	last	rest	cost
mask	lisp	mast	vest	lost
task	cusps	past	west	bust
desk		vast	zest	dust
disk		best	chest	gust
risk		jest	quest	just
dusk		lest	fist	must
rusk		nest	gist	rust
whisk				

Jim sat at his desk.

Jill will pass the test.

Beth did her best.

Bill went west.

Bob did his task.

Hank can run fast.

The metal chest was full of rust.

Lesson 50

lb

bulb

ldheld
meld
weld**lf**elf
self
golf
gulf
shelf**lk**milk
silk
bulk
hulk
sulk**bald**calf
halftalk
walk

Lesson 51

lmelm
helm
film**lp**help
kelp
yelp
gulp
pulp**lt**belt
felt
melt
pelt
welt
halt
malt
salthilt
jilt
tilt
wilt
quilt

Lesson 52

mp

camp	limp	bump	lump
damp	chimp	dump	pump
lamp	romp	hump	sump
champ	chomp	jump	chump

Lesson 53

tch

catch	itch	etch	botch
hatch	ditch	fetch	notch
latch	hitch	retch	Dutch
match	pitch		hutch
patch	witch		
watch			

Jack has an itch. Dad lit a 'match.
Dad has a watch. Bess has a lamp.
The cat is in a ditch at the dump.
Can the cat catch the fish?
Bill will pitch his tent at the camp.

Lesson 54

dge

badge	dodge
Madge	lodge
edge	budge
hedge	fudge
ledge	judge
wedge	nudge
ridge	hodge-podge

nge

binge
singe
tinge
lunge

The cat sat at the edge of the ledge
and did not budge.

Lesson 55

nce

dance	mince
chance	since
fence	dunce
hence	once

nse

dense
sense
tense
rinse

The cat sat on the fence.
The fog is dense.

match

milk

left

ring

dust

dish

belt

pest

cash

fudge

kept

pink

lung

desk

last

lost

melt

catch

bulb

bench

bath

jump

elm

tint

rinse

edge

bank

act

ink

help

much

next

patch

hunt

west

sing

camp

itch

gasp

kept

went

half

weld

dance

with

hint

pitch

rich

rust

fast

test

elf

fist

witch

fond

send

bend

fence

ranch

once

Lesson 57

con-test	contest
sand-wich	sandwich
self-ish	selfish
rub-bish	rubbish
pol-ish	polish
den-tist	dentist
ab-sent	absent
pun-ish	punish
shop-lift	shoplift
af-ter	after
ob-ject	object
dust-pan	dustpan
con-duct	conduct
bath-mat	bathmat
fin-ish	finish
con-sent	consent
chop-stick	chopstick
hodge-podge	hodgepodge

bl

blab	bled	bliss	bluff
black	blend	blob	blunt
blanch	bless	block	blush
bland	blimp	blond	
blank	blink	blot	
blast	blip	blotch	

br

Brad	brash	brig	broth
brag	brass	brim	Bronx
bran	bred	bring	brunch
branch	brick	brink	brunt
brand	bridge	brisk	brush

Lesson 59

cl

clad	clasp	cling	cloth
clam	class	clip	club
clamp	cleft	clock	cluck
clan	clench	clod	clump
clank	click	clog	clung
clap	cliff	clop	clutch
clash	clinch	clot	

cr

crab	crash	crick	crunch
crack	crass	crimp	crush
craft	crept	crisp	crust
cram	cress	crock	crutch
cramp	crest	crop	crux
crank	crib	cross	

Lesson 60

dr

drab	drank	drift	drop
draft	dredge	drill	drudge
drag	drench	drink	drug
dram	dress	drip	drum

dw

dwelt dwell

Lesson 61

fl

flab	flax	fling	flub
flack	fleck	flint	fluff
flag	fled	flip	flung
flank	flesh	flock	flunk
flap	flex	flog	flush
flash	flick	flop	
flat	flinch	floss	

Lesson 61

(Continued)

fr

Fran	fret	frost	frill
France	fresh	froth	frisk
Frank	French	from	frizz
Fred	frog		frock

Lesson 62

gl

glad	glint
glance	glitch
gland	glob
glass	glop
glen	glum
glib	glut

gr

grab	grill
grad	grim
graft	grin
gram	grip
grand	grit
grant	grub
grasp	grudge
grass	gruff
Greg	grunt
grid	

gw

Gwen

Lesson 63

pl

plan	pluck
plank	plug
plant	plum
pledge	plump
plop	plus
plot	plush

pr

prance	print
prank	prod
prep	prom
press	prompt
prick	prong
prim	prop
prince	

Lesson 64

sl

slab	slat	sling	sluff
slack	sled	slink	slug
slag	sledge	slip	slum
slam	slept	slop,	slump
slant	slick	slosh	slung
slap	slid	slot	slush
slash	slim		

Lesson 65

shr

shrank
shred
shrill
shrimp
shrink
shrub
shrug
shrunk

sm

smack
small
smash
smell
smog
smudge
smug

sn

snack
snag
snap
snick
sniff
snip
snub
snuck
snug

Lesson 66

sp

Spam	spent
span	spin
spank	spit
spat	spot
speck	spud
sped	spun
spell	spunk
spend	

spl

splash
splint
split
splotch

spr

sprang
spring
sprung
sprig
sprint

Lesson 67

st**str**

stab	stank	stilt	stub	strand
stack	stash	sting	stuck	strap
staff	stem	stink	stud	string
stag	step	stint	stuff	strip
stamp	stick	stock	stung	strum
Stan	stiff	stomp	stump	strut
stand	still	stop	stunt	

Lesson 68

sw**sc****sk****scr**

swam	scab	skid	scram
swell	scalp	skill	scrap
swept	scam	skim	scratch
swift	scamp	skimp	scrimp
swim	scan	skin	script
swing	scant	skip	scrod
swish	scat	skit	scrub
Swiss	Scott	skunk	scrunch
switch	scuff		
swan			
swamp			

Lesson 69

tr

track	trek	trip	trump
tram	trench	trod	trunk
trance	trend	trot	trust
trap	trick	truck	
trash	trim	trudge	

thr

thrall	throb
thrash	throng
thresh	thrush
thrift	thrust
thrill	

tw

twang
twelve
twig
twill
twin
twist
twit
twitch

truck	jump	bless
skip	then	Dutch
swift	spun	with
quick	slosh	pest
grudge	shrimp	dish
glass	shack	bank
blond	plum	king
fudge	prom	fond
dump	frill	act
task	flag	lift
sash	cliff	left
lisp	crux	kept
clasp	draft	trick
dwelt	chest	France
clap	bridge	hitch
slack	edge	next
spring	golf	lunch
witch	elm	flash
smash	scant	twist
snick	scrunch	strand
string	thrush	scuff

Lesson 71

The cat sat still.

Bill had fudge with his lunch.

Patrick drank a glass of milk.

Gwen put cash in the bank.

Pam had a stiff neck.

Kenneth had shrimp for lunch.

The king of France was plump.

Frank is a prince.

The bus stop is on the bridge.

His skin has an itch.

Stan put the trash in the basket.

Fred sat on the grass.

The frog swam in the swamp.

A frog can jump and swim.

A skunk can jump and skip.

The swift skunk stunk.

Madge had a strand of gems.

The clock struck twelve.

The truck got stuck in the mud.

ă**ā**

at	→	ate
hat	→	hate
fat	→	fate
mat	→	mate
rat	→	rate
Al	→	ale
pal	→	pale
Sal	→	sale
gal	→	gale
fad	→	fade
mad	→	made
man	→	mane
Jan	→	Jane
van	→	vane
cap	→	cape
gap	→	gape

Lesson 73

Long a as a-e

Abe	ace	ade	safe	age
babe	face	fade		cage
	lace	made		page
	pace	wade		rage
	race	blade		sage
	brace	glade		wage
	grace	grade		stage
	place	shade		
	space	spade		
	trace	trade		

Lesson 73

(Continued)

bake	ale	came	cane	ape
cake	bale	dame	Dane	cape
fake	dale	fame	Jane	gape
Jake	hale	game	lane	tape
lake	male	lame	mane	drape
make	pale	name	pane	grape
quake	sale	same	sane	scrape
rake	tale	tame	crane	shape
sake	scale	blame	plane	
take	stale	flame		
wake	whale	frame		
brake		shame		
drake				
flake				
shake				
snake				
stake				
ache				

Lesson 73

(Continued)

bare	base	date	cave	daze
care	case	fate	Dave	gaze
dare	chase	gate	gave	haze
fare		hate	pave	maze
hare		Kate	rave	blaze
mare		late	save	craze
rare		mate	wave	glaze
ware		rate	brave	graze
blare		crate	crave	
flare		grate	grave	
glare		plate	shave	
scare		skate	slave	
share		slate	have	
snare		state		
spare				
square				
stare				
are				

Jane can bake a cake.

When will Kate wake up and take
a bath?

Dave has an ache in his hand.

Bill's rabbit is in a cage.

Dave came, but Kate is late.

Dave ate a date with Kate.

Jane ate the cake.

When will Dave shave his face?

Jack fell in the lake.

Can Dave save Jack?

Yes, Dave is brave.

Dave gave Kate a locket.

This place is safe.

The cat hid in the cave.

His name is Jake.

Kate gave Jane the date of the game.

Abe's face is pale.

Beth ate a grape.

Lesson 75

Long a as ai

aid	ail	aim	Cain	air
laid	bail	claim	gain	fair
maid	fail		lain	hair
paid	Gail		main	pair
raid	hail		pain	chair
braid	jail		rain	Clair
said	mail		vain	stair
	nail		brain	
	pail		chain	bait
	quail		drain	wait
	rail		grain	trait
	tail		plain	
	frail		slain	
	snail		Spain	
	trail		stain	
			strain	
			train	
			again	
			against	

Clair paid ten cents at the gate.

Gail will wait in the rain for the train.

If the train is late, Gail will take a bus.

In Spain the rain falls on the plain.

Cain is waiting at the main gate.

If the train is late, take a plane.

“Fish or cut bait,” said Bill.

Gail is washing her hair.

Jane is trimming her nails.

“If it rains, take the train,” said Dave.

“It is raining,” said Kate.

“Wait for Jane,” said Dave. But Kate
did not wait in the rain.

The mail is late.

Spring is in the air.

Lesson 77

Long a as ay and ey

bay	may	clay	hey
day	nay	gray	grey
Fay	pay	play	obey
hay	ray	slay	they
Jay	say	spray	
Kay	way	stay	
lay		stray	
		sway	
		tray	

Lesson 78

Can Fay play with Kay?

They say that Fay may play with Kay.

Jay will play a game with Kay.

Fay will stay with Kay all day.

Jay fell in the hay.

They went that way.

They came late that day.

The day was grey.

Long a as ei and eigh

rein

weigh

reign

vein

sleigh

height

veil

eight

heir

eighth

their

weight

beige

freight

Bill is eight.

Jack has eight cents.

Kay's hat has a veil.

Dave ate eight cupcakes.

The freight train came.

Can they weigh the freight?

Yes, they can weigh the freight
on a scale.

They will play with their game.

Dave and Kay are on the eighth
day of their game.

Lesson 80

face	vale	main	ache	ale
pain	veil	flame	jay	take
way	dare	rain	mail	ail
plate	brave	rein	ate	raid
cage	brain	grade	hate	eight
space	gate	cake	quake	ate
scrape	vein	day	trail	vain
paid	fake	weigh	age	vein
chair	stain	play	wait	freight
their	care	they	made	eighth
tail	brake	say	shade	beige

Lesson 81

vale	veil	vail
rain	rein	reign
vain	vein	vane
main	mane	mein
hail	hale	
ate	eight	
made	maid	
tale	tail	
male	mail	
wait	weight	
way	weigh	

pay-day	payday
rail-way	railway
air-plane	airplane
space-ship	spaceship
a-way	away
en-gage	engage
wait-ress	waitress
rain-ing	raining
en-slave	enslave
grate-ful	grateful
ex-plain	explain
com-plain	complain
mail-man	mailman
chair-man	chairman
em-brace	embrace
ob-tain	obtain
tail-gate	tailgate
play-mate	playmate

Lesson 83

au and aw

Maud	daunt	sauce	awe	hawk
fraud	flaunt	cause	jaw	bawl
haul	gaunt	clause	law	brawl
maul	haunt	pause	paw	crawl
Paul	jaunt	taut	raw	drawl
Saul	taunt	gauze	saw	dawn
fault	haunch		claw	fawn
vault	launch		draw	lawn
	staunch		flaw	pawn
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">aunt</div>		thaw	yawn
			slaw	brawn
			straw	drawn

Lesson 84

Paul saw a spot on Saul's jaw.

Paul saw Aunt Maud sitting on
the lawn.

The cat cut her paw.

Paul drank his milk with a straw.

The dawn came at six o'clock.

Lesson 85

a as in **ma** and **car**

ma	pa	father	haha
mama	papa		java
			lava
			drama

arc	bar	barb	ark	arm	art
ark	car	garb	bark	farm	cart
arm	far		dark	harm	dart
art	jar	bard	hark	charm	mart
	mar	card	lark		part
	tar	hard	mark	barn	tart
	scar	lard	park	darn	chart
	star	yard	Clark	tarn	smart
			shark	yarn	start
	arch	barge	spark		
	march	charge	stark	carp	carve
	starch	large		harp	starve
		Marge	scarf	sharp	
			snarl		

war	warm	warn
ward	warmth	warp
	swarm	wart

quart

dwarf
wharf

Lesson 86

Mark has a red car.

“Park the car in the yard,” said Art.

Pam has a big jar of jam.

Beth has a part in a play.

Mark’s farm has a barn.

Father went far away on the plane.

It is dark in the park.

“Start the car,” said Ma.

The dog will bark in the dark.

Pa’s yard is full of junk.

Mark’s arm has an itch.

Beth has a ball of yarn.

“If it rains, put the cart in the barn,”
said Father.

The shark ate the small fish.

Clark and Mark are smart.

Marge drank a quart of milk.

Paul and Art will play cards.

Mark can take his car apart.

Long e as ee

bee	deed	leek	deem	deer	fleece
Dee	feed	meek	seem	jeer	Greece
fee	heed	peek	teem	peer	
gee	need	seek		veer	geese
Lee	reed	week	teen	cheer	cheese
see	seed	cheek	keen	sneer	
flee	weed	creek	seen	steer	peeve
free	bleed	Greek	green		sleeve
glee	breed	sleek	queen	beet	
three	creed		screen	feet	breeze
tree	freed		been	meet	freeze
knee	greed	eel		fleet	sneeze
	speed	feel	beep	greet	tweeze
breech		heel	deep	sheet	wheeze
speech	beef	keel	jeep	street	
	reef	peel	keep	sweet	
		reel	peep	tweet	
		steel	weep		
		wheel	creep	teeth	
		kneel	sheep		be
			sleep		he
			steep		me
			sweep		we
					she

Lesson 88

I see the tree.

Can the tree see me?

She is the queen.

Is she the queen of Greece?

Yes, she is the Greek queen.

We ate beef this week.

Lee came in a jeep.

Will they sweep the street this week?

Yes, they will sweep the street at three.

He is free at three o'clock.

I have seen the queen.

Lee will greet the queen.

Dee and Lee will cheer the queen.

We ate cheese this week.

She ate cheese and beef.

"Meet me next week," she said.

The deer was in a deep sleep.

He was sleeping in the breeze.

Lee was on his knee fixing the jeep.

Long e as ea

pea	leaf	beam	ear	eat	peace
sea	sheaf	seam	dear	beat	
tea		team	fear	feat	ease
flea	beak	cream	gear	heat	cease
plea	leak	dream	hear	meat	lease
	peak	gleam	near	neat	tease
each	weak	steam	rear	peat	crease
beach	sneak	stream	tear	seat	grease
peach	speak		year	cheat	please
reach	streak	bean	clear	treat	
teach		Jean		wheat	breathe
bleach	deal	lean	leash		
preach	heal	mean			eave
	meal	clean	east		leave
bead	peal		beast		heave
lead	real	heap	feast		weave
read	seal	leap	least		
plead	teal	reap	yeast		
	veal	cheap			
	zeal				
	steal				

Lesson 89

(Continued)

sweat
threat
sweater

realm
dealt

bear
pear
tear
wear
swear

dead
head
lead
read
bread
breath
deaf
meant

steak
break
great

Lesson 90

Jean had a dream. She put cream in her tea.

Jean ate a meal of veal, peas, bread, and tea.

Then she ate a peach. The peach was sweet.

Bill is at sea. The sea is in the east.

The beach is neat and clean.

Jean sat in her seat. The seat is near
the rear.

Bill is on the team this year.

The dog has fleas. The cat is neat and clean.

When will we reach the beach?

Steak will be great. Let's break for steak.

Jean will read "The Seal Had Zeal."

Long e as e-e

gene	here	eve	Pete
scene	mere	Steve	theme
there	were	Swede	these
where			eye

Where is Steve?

Steve is here.

Where were Pete and Steve?

Pete and Steve were here.

Here is where they were.

Where were they?

They were here and there.

“Sit here, not there,” said Steve.

Steve and Gene were there at the beach.

The sun was in Steve’s eyes.

Steve had a tear in his eye.

Eve has green eyes.

Lesson 92

Long e as ie

brief	field	pier	fiend
chief	yield	tier	niece
grief	wield	fierce	piece
thief	shield	pierce	siege
			sieze
Jackie	Minnie	Bonnie	friend
Lassie	Vinnie	Connie	receive
Debbie		Ronnie	

Debbie and Ronnie sat on the pier.

Jackie is Connie's friend.

Vinnie and Ronnie are friends.

Lassie ran in the field.

The thief ran away. Vinnie will sieze the thief.

The heat from the sun is fierce.

Bonnie shields her eyes from the sun.

Connie has a niece. Her name is Minnie.

Long e as y

Abby	daddy	taffy	baggy	Billy
Tabby	caddy	daffy	saggy	Sally
Libby	paddy	jiffy	Maggy	silly
lobby	Teddy	puffy	foggy	Molly
Debby	muddy	stuffy	Peggy	Polly
baby	study		muggy	chilly
		Harry		daily
mammy	Danny	carry	messy	
mommy	Denny	Barry	sissy	Betty
mummy	Lanny	Perry	fussy	batty
tummy	Benny	Terry	easy	catty
Tommy	Jenny	merry		fatty
Timmy	Lenny	hurry	busy	nutty
Jimmy	Kenny	sorry		putty
Sammy	penny	Gary	hazy	city
	bunny	marry	lazy	pity
happy	funny	berry	crazy	
pappy	sunny	cherry	dizzy	pretty
peppy		very	fuzzy	
poppy	money	furry		candy
puppy	any	worry	key	handy
	many			sandy

Lesson 94

Billy was silly.

Taffy was daffy.

Mommy was happy.

Daddy was very merry.

Danny ate candy.

Kenny felt dizzy.

The lobby was stuffy.

The day is hot and muggy.

The bunny is funny.

Larry is dizzy.

Debbie is very pretty.

Betty is busy.

Jerry is in a hurry.

The day was chilly and foggy.

Perry is very sorry.

Gary hasn't any money.

The city is hilly.

The day was sunny.

Daddy was busy.

The baby was fussy.

Can Perry carry Barry?

Lesson 95

baby	babies	lobby	lobbies
berry	berries	cherry	cherries
city	cities	bunny	bunnies
puppy	puppies	candy	candies
penny	pennies	hurry	hurries
marry	marries	study	studies

Lesson 96

tea	easy	queen	steer	eel
week	jeep	reach	greasy	ease
fear	tree	sweet	hear	clear
beet	he	sea	meat	city
see	key	field	steal	beach
dear	please	she	feet	read
year	gear	study	meet	tease
here	near	Pete	chief	feel
niece	thief	treat	cheer	peace
greet	mean	need	bean	seat
these	we	eve	weep	breeze
sleep	leaf	leap	creep	street

Lesson 97

The street is neat and clean.

Lee's feet need rest.

Peggy feels very sleepy.

"Meet me at the beach," Betty said.

Where is the beach?

The beach is near the city.

"Please teach me to read," Pete said
to his teacher.

There is a breeze near the sea.

We can sleep on the beach and feel
the sea breeze.

There are trees near the sea.

"There are three peach trees in the
field near Berry Street," said Gene.

Steve can reach a peach with ease.

The berries are sweet.

"For Pete's sake, hurry up," said Jean.

We will be back at the beach next week.

"Did Lee hear me?" asked Billy.

"Where are the keys?" asked Penny.

Steve will pick the cherries from the tree.

It is easy to read this page.

Long i as I, y, ie and uy

I am	by	shy	die	buy
I can	my	sky	lie	guy
I take	cry	sly	pie	
I had	dry	spry	tie	
I have	fly	spy		
I ran	fry	sty		
	pry	try		
		why		

I will dry my wet tie.

"I can not tell a lie," said Terry.

"I will try to do better," said John.

Why did the big guy cry?

Jack's dad will fly in the plane to Spain.

She had cherry pie for lunch.

"Can you tie the bow on my dress?"

Connie asked.

"I will fry an egg for Timmy," said Mom.

Lesson 99

Long i as i-e

ice	bide	file	dine	fire	dive
dice	hide	mile	fine	hire	five
lice	ride	Nile	line	mire	hive
mice	side	pile	mine	tire	jive
nice	tide	tile	nine	wire	live
rice	wide	smile	pine	spire	chive
vice	bride	while	vine		drive
price	glide	isle	wine	bite	strive
slice	slide	aisle	shine	kite	give
spice	stride		spine	mite	live
twice		dime	swine	quite	
	life	lime	thine	site	rise
bribe	wife	mime	twine	spite	wise
tribe	strife	time	shrine	sprite	
	knife	chime	whine	trite	size
		crime		white	prize
		grime	pipe		
		slime	ripe		
			wipe		
			gripe		
			swipe		
			stripe		

(Continued)

I like red berry ice cream.

I can ride my bike to the pike.

I will fly my kite at the beach.

We ate a slice of pie.

I will strive to do my best.

We will strive to run a mile each day.

Danny will fix the tire on his bike.

Jenny has a pretty smile.

“Let’s play hide and seek,” said Jake.

What time is it? It is five o’clock.

Mike likes to ride his bike. Tim likes to drive
his car.

They won a nice prize at the fair.

Jean is Jack’s wife.

Her doll can cry like a baby.

Mom and Jan like plain rice, but Dad likes
spice on his rice.

“I feel fine,” Betty said.

Lesson 100

Long i as igh

high	fight	tight
sigh	light	bright
thigh	might	flight
	night	fright
	right	slight
	sight	

The light was bright.

The price is right.

The night was chilly.

Is the price high?

Yes, the price is very high.

The fire is bright.

Land is in sight.

The bright lights of the city are a
sight at night.

Mike was in a prize fight.

Mike fights with all his might.

The sky is bright tonight.

Lesson 101

ough and augh

ought
bought
brought

fought
sought
thought

though

caught
taught
daughter
slaughter

I bought candy and gum.
Paul caught the ball.
He thought the ball was fast.
Dad taught a tennis lesson.

Lesson 102

f as gh

rough
tough
cough
coughing

laugh
laughing
laughter

Dad has a cough.
Mom gave him a cough drop.
The steak was tough.
Mike made Billy laugh.
The sea was rough.

Lesson 103

Long o as o-e

robe	hole	bone	cope	hose	cove
lobe	mole	cone	hope	pose	dove
globe	pole	lone	mope	rose	rove
probe	role	tone	rope	chose	wove
	sole	zone	grobe	close	drove
code	stole	phone	scope	prose	grove
mode	whole	stone	slope	those	stove
rode	soul	throne			move
		one	bore	dose	prove
joke	dome	once	core	close	
poke	home	none	more		dove
woke	Rome	done	tore	lose	love
yoke	come		sore	whose	glove
broke	some	gone	wore		shove
choke			chore	note	
smoke			score	rote	owe
spoke			shore	tote	
stroke			snore	vote	doze
			store	quote	froze

My nose is sore.

My home is in Rome.

I spoke on the phone.

I had an ice cream cone.

I love a joke.

Tell me a funny joke.

She will move the stone one more time.

The stove is hot.

The dog ate the bone.

Perry wore a bathrobe.

Jean woke up. Then she woke me up.

A rose is a rose. A rose smells nice.

Dad drove to the store.

He bought some hotdogs and a Coke.

“Come home when you are done,” she said.

Mom ate something for lunch.

Betty loves to talk on the phone.

“Tell me more,” she said in a soft tone.

I sent Kathy a note. The note was in code.

“Please don’t poke and shove,” Tom said.

We chose to go to the seashore.

Lesson 105

Long o as oa

load	oak	Joan	oat	boast
road	soak	loan	boat	coast
toad	cloak		coat	roast
broad		oar	goat	toast
	coal	roar	bloat	
coach	goal	soar	float	coax
poach		board		hoax
	foam	source	soap	
loaf	roam	court		
		course		

The car is on the road.

He bought a loaf of bread.

Joan ate a roast beef sandwich.

The soap can float.

Dad bought coal for the stove.

Jan and Joan had oatmeal.

Mom has tea and toast each day.

Dad bought a big boat.

The boat floats on the lake.

Joan wore her red coat.

Long o as ow

bow	know	show	bowl	grown
low	blow	slow		known
mow	crow	snow	own	shown
row	flow	stow	blown	thrown
sow	glow	throw	flown	growth
tow	grow	dough		
owe		though		

Joan wants to grow up.

The snow fell last night.

I know what I want.

I want to own a car.

Bill wants his own boat.

Bob wants to row his boat.

Go slow in the snow.

"I know the way home," said Joan.

Jack will mow the lawn after lunch.

Mom gave the cat a bowl of milk.

Dad and Mike like to go bowling on Sundays.

Mike has grown up.

We saw a TV show.

Bonnie has shown a lot of growth.

The ball was thrown to Jim.

Lesson 107

Long o as in **old**

old	hold	host	oh	only
bold	mold	most	go	Joe
cold	sold	post	no	doe
fold	told	cost	so	
gold	scold	lost	quo	
			yo-yo	

The old home was cold.

“Hold my hand,” she said.

“Go home,” I told him.

He was lost.

He sold his home.

I know what he told her.

In winter it is cold most of the time.

Bob sold his gold ring.

I told him so.

Dad sold his boat.

It had cost him a lot of money.

“It was only money,” he said.

He is the only one I know with a boat.

Most of the time he stays home.

“Go slow. There is ice on the road,” said Dad.

to
too
two

do
who
you
youth

young

Do you know who went to the phone?

Did you do what you were told?

The two of you must know what to do.

Who do you think you are?

Do you know who you are?

I want to go too.

You are young.

You are too young to go alone.

The box is two feet high.

It is too big.

Give it back to him.

What shall I do?

Go to the man who sold it to you.

Lesson 109

oo as in good food

coo	spook	boom	boon	coop	boot
boo		doom	moon	loop	coot
moo	cool	room	noon	hoop	hoot
too	fool	zoom	soon	droop	loot
woo	pool	bloom	spoon	scoop	root
zoo	tool	broom		snoop	toot
	drool	gloom	groove	stoop	shoot
food	school	groom	ooze	troop	
mood	stool		snooze		roost
		loose		booth	
goof	stooge	moose		tooth	soup
roof		noose		smooth	group
proof		choose			

good	hoof	book	nook	cook
hood	wool	hook	brook	cookie
wood	foot	look	crook	cookies
stood	soot	took	shook	

boor poor moor

door floor

flood blood

Joan and Jane went to the zoo.
The zoo was too far from home.
Jane took a book with her.
Joan wore a wool coat.
Soon they will go to school.
The pool was cool, but the food was good.
Betty can cook good food.
Jim stood at the door and took a look.
Look at Betty's room. It's so neat.
"Open the door," said Pam. "I have cookies
and milk."
The door is made of wood.
The dentist said my tooth was loose.
Barry sat on the floor. He took a snooze.
It's noon. Time for lunch.
Betty has too much to do this afternoon.
The broom is in Mike's bedroom.
Go to his room and get it.
Soon it will be noon.
Choose a good book to read.

Lesson 111

ould *sounding as* **ood** *in* **wood**

could	→	could not	→	couldn't
would	→	would not	→	wouldn't
should	→	should not	→	shouldn't

I would go if I could.

If he could go, he would.

Couldn't I go?

He could go, but not the two of you.

I would like to go, but I know I shouldn't.

Should I go? No, you should stay.

Shawn has a bad cold.

Should he go to school?

He shouldn't go to school if he has a cold.

I wouldn't go if I had a bad cold.

If I were sick I would stay in bed.

Would you?

Yes, I would.

Lesson 112

ow and ou as in cow and ouch

bow	brow	owl	down	browse	bower
cow	chow	cowl	gown		cower
how	plow	fowl	town	towel	power
now		howl	brown	trowel	tower
pow	crowd	jowl	clown	vowel	flower
sow		growl	crown		shower
vow		prowl	drown		
wow			frown		

ouch	loud	bough	our	house	out
couch	cloud	plough	hour	louse	bout
pouch	proud	drought	sour	mouse	pout
vouch			flour	blouse	scout
grouch	bound	rough	four	spouse	shout
slouch	found	tough	pour		snout
touch	hound	enough	tour	mouth	spout
	mound		your	south	stout
noun	pound	doubt	fourth	youth	trout
ounce	round		mourn		
bounce	sound				count
pounce	wound				fount
	ground				
	wound				

Lesson 113

How did the cow get out of the house?

A mouse let her out.

"I found the cow near the house," Brother
said.

They heard a loud sound.

The house fell down.

"Ouch," said the clown.

The clown ran out of the house.

They went downtown.

It took an hour to find the cow.

The cow was in a crowd, and then she went
around the tower.

How now brown cow? Will you come home?

"Not now," said the cow. "Bow wow," said
the dog.

A man came to the house. "Your cow is in
town," he said.

The clown chased the mouse round and
round.

oy as in **boy**, **oi** as in **oil**

boy	oil	coin	noise	hoist
coy	boil	join	poise	foist
joy	coil	loin		moist
Roy	foil	void	choice	
soy	soil	joint	voice	
toy	toil	point		
Joyce	broil			
Royce	spoil			

poi-son	poison	joy-ful	joyful
oil-y	oily	boy-ish	boyish
an-noy	annoy	broil-ing	broiling

Roy gave the toy to Joyce.
The cat likes to annoy Joyce.
Roy wants to join a club.
He has a choice of two clubs.
Joyce has a jar of coins.
Roy has a ballpoint pen.
The water is about to boil.
The soil is moist.
Joyce made a good point.
Uncle Royce has a boyish smile.

Lesson 115

Long u as u-e

cube	dude	duke	fume	cure	cute
lube	Jude	juke	spume	pure	jute
Rube	rude	Luke	plume	lure	lute
tube	crude	'fluke		sure	mute
	prude		dune		brute
Bruce		mule	June	use	flute
truce	dupe	rule	tune	fuse	
spruce	huge	yule	prune	muse	

June can play a tune on the flute.

Luke sat on the sand dune.

June ate a prune.

Luke rode on a mule.

June is cute.

The cloud was huge.

Luke put a dime in the jukebox.

Is there a cure for a cold?

We are not sure.

If there is a cure, let's use it.

Bruce has a tube of toothpaste.

Dad put a fuse in the fuse box.

It's never nice to be rude.

Long u as ue and ui

cue	blue	flu	juice
due	clue		bruise
hue	flue	queue	cruise
Sue	glue		
cruel	true		suit
duel			fruit
fuel			

Sue had prune juice at breakfast.

Is it true that Sue has the flu?

Yes, it's true.

Take a cue from Sue. When you have a cold,
eat lots of fruit and drink lots of juice.

Sue's dress is blue.

Bruce has a tube of glue.

He will use the glue to fix a toy.

Lesson 117

Long u as ew and eu

dew	blew	grew	slew	feud
few	brew	stew	threw	deuce
Lew	chew	view		
mew	clew	knew	through	
new	crew	screw		
news	drew			
pew	flew			
sew				

June has a new dress.

What's new?

The news is good.

Good news is always nice.

Tell me the good news.

Lew is having beef stew.

I knew the news was good.

Sue likes to chew gum.

She grew an inch.

Luke threw a stone.

He threw it far.

Lew drew a cat on his sketchpad.

Sue will sew her blue coat.

Lesson 118

er, ir, or, ur and ear

her	perch	fir	dirt	fur	lurch
verb	clerk	sir	flirt	curb	urge
herd	merge	bird	shirt	surf	purge
perk	verge	gird	skirt	turf	splurge
germ	terse	girl	squirt	lurk	surge
term	verse	third	thirst	Turk	curse
fern	nerve	shirk	birth	hurl	nurse
Vern	serve	smirk	mirth	urn	purse
Bert	verve	chirp		burn	curve
pert				turn	burnt
				hurt	burst

earn	word	birth-day	birthday
learn	work	thirst-y	thirsty
yearn	worm	tur-nip	turnip
heard	worst	tur-key	turkey
pearl	worth	ex-pert	expert
search		home-work	homework
earth			

Lesson 118

(Continued)

Sue wants to be a nurse.

Bert likes to throw curve balls.

He is in his third year of baseball.

Today is Vern's birthday.

Willy likes to learn new words.

He is an expert at learning verses.

Kelly is sitting on the curb.

Bonnie has curls in her hair.

She is holding a purse in her lap.

Mom will grow turnips in her garden.

We will have turkey for dinner.

"Did you do your homework?" Dad asked.

Vinnie will work with his list of words.

The clerk wore a new shirt.

The girl lost her purse.

Bert held the bird and heard it sing.

The bird was hurt and thirsty.

Bert will urge Vern to get water for the bird.

*words ending in **le***

able	babble	dazzle	tattle	ample
cable	bubble	fizzle	turtle	sample
fable	pebble	drizzle	single	simple
table	apple	wiggle	jingle	dimple
stable	grapple	jiggle	jungle	pimple
eagle	paddle	battle	bangle	temple
beagle	faddle	bottle	dangle	fumble
idle	saddle	cattle	bungle	bumble
rifle	fiddle	little	juggle	humble
trifle	riddle	settle	struggle	tumble
stifle	raffle	kettle	strangle	handle
title	ruffle	brittle	skittle	candle

*silent **t**: hustle, bustle, rustle*

He ate a little apple. He threw a pebble.
She had a little dimple. He sat at the table.
He had a pimple on his dimple.
She was nimble with a thimble.
The bottle was brittle.
The candle was on the table.
Can a beagle chase an eagle?
Can a turtle play a fiddle?
Are you able to handle a paddle?
The drizzle was a fizzle.
There was a battle in the jungle.

Lesson 120

f as ph

Phil	phone	phantom	photograph
Philip	phony	pharmacy	telegraph
	photo	pharmacist	telephone
Ralph	phonics	Philadelphia	graphic
graph	Phoenix	philosopher	emphasis
	phase	philosophy	emphatic
	phrase		

Lesson 121

sh as ti

sh as ssi, ci, and ce

nation	patient	fission	racial
station	patience	mission	facial
ration	action	admission	special
lotion	fraction	session	crucial
motion	traction		musician
notion			ocean

sh as ci, sci, and xi

sh as su and ssu

atrocious	obnoxious	sure	issue
ferocious		insure	tissue
conscious		assure	
conscience		fissure	

Lesson 121

(Continued)

zh as **si** and **su**

ch as **tu** and **ti**

fusion measure
confusion pleasure
illusion treasure
intrusion leisure

capture question
fracture digestion
gesture indigestion
picture suggestion

The ocean can be ferocious.

Ralph is a musician and won a special prize
at the fair.

Jeff went to the train station to pick up Kate.

Did you see Gail's picture on the table?

Betty had a crucial question for the teacher.

"Thank you for being so patient," said Dad.

Mom bought a box of facial tissues.

She phoned the pharmacy for special lotion.

Didn't you think that motion picture was
obnoxious?

It sure was a pleasure to see Grandma and
Grandpa this weekend.

Grandma brought an album of photographs
from Phoenix, which we will treasure.

Dad will measure the wood to a fraction
of an inch.

The doctor's suggestion cleared Philip's
confusion about his indigestion.

Lesson 122

n as **kn**

knee	knit	knack	know
kneel	knitting	knock	known
kneeling	knitted	knob	knowing
knelt	knife	knot	knowledge
	knight	knuckle	knew
		knickers	

Lesson 123

m as **mb**

lamb	bomb	comb
jamb	bombed	combed
dumb	bombing	combing
numb	climb	plumber
crumb	climbed	plumbing
thumb	climbing	tomb

t as **bt**: debt, doubt

Lesson 124

silent **h**

hour	ghost	rhyme
honor	ghastly	rhymed
honest	ghetto	rhyming
heir	ghoul	

Lesson 125

r as wr

write	wrap	wrench	wrangle
writer	wrack	wretch	wrinkle
writing	wrath	wretched	wring
written	wreck	wriggle	wrong
wrote	wreath	wriggled	wrung
wrist	wrought	wriggling	wry

Lesson 126

s as st

f as ft

castle	listen	wrestle	often
nestle	listener	wrestled	soften
hasten	listening	wrestler	softener
moisten	whistle	wrestling	softening
fasten	whistler		

Lesson 127

k as ch

s as ps

character	chorus	scheme	psychic
choir	choral	schedule	psyche
Christmas	chord	school	
	chlorine	scholar	
chemist	chronic	scholastic	
chemistry	chronicle		

Lesson 128

y as **short i**

cyst	gymnast	gymnasium
gym	mystic	mystery
hymn	system	syllable
Lynn	symbol	sympathy
myth	symptom	synonym
	rhythm	hysteric
	syrup	hypnosis
	lyric	cylinder
	syntax	typical
	Phyllis	tyranny
	Sheryl	synthetic
	cryptic	mystical
	physic	physical
	physics	physician

ORDER OF LESSONS

Lessons

1. Short **a**; consonants **m, n, s, t, x**
2. Initial consonants **S, m, h, s, t**
3. Review sentences
4. Consonants **d, D, w**
5. Alphabetic word building
6. Short **a** sentences; punctuation
7. Word building with short **a**; consonant **l**
8. Consonants **l, b, c, g, f, j, l, n**
9. Consonants **p, r, t, v, w, y, z**; final consonant **k**
10. Review of short **a** words
11. Consonant digraph **ck; qu**
12. **a** as a word
13. Sentences
14. Nonsense syllables with **short a**
15. Short vowels **a, e, i, o, u**
16. Short **e** words
17. Short **e** sentences
18. Nonsense syllables with **short e**
19. Short **i** words; **f** as **ph**
20. Short **i** sentences
21. Consonant digraph **th**
22. Sentences
23. Short **o** words
24. Short **o** sentences
25. Plural **s, es, and 's**
26. Sentences
27. Short **u** words
28. Short **u** sentences
- 28a. Consonants **b** and **d**
29. Consonant digraph **sh**
30. Consonant digraph **ch**
31. Consonant digraph **wh**
32. Review of **sh, ch, wh** words
33. Sentences
34. Verbs **to be** and **to have**
35. Sentences with verbs **to be** and **to have**
36. Contractions
37. Sentences with contractions
38. Two-syllable, short vowel words
39. Sentences with two-syllable, short-vowel words
40. **a** as in **all**; sentences
41. Consonant blend **ng; ing** words

42. Sentences with **ing** words
43. Final consonant blends **nd, nt**
44. Sentences
45. Final syllable **er**; **er** words and sentences
46. Final consonant blends **nk, nc, nch**
47. Sentences
48. Final consonant blends **ct, ft, pt, xt**; sentences
49. Final consonant blends **sk, sp, st**; sentences
50. Final consonant blends **lb, ld, lf, lk**
51. Final consonant blends **lm, lp, lt**
52. Final consonant blend **mp**
53. Final consonant blend **tch**; sentences
54. Final consonant blends **dge, nge**
55. Final consonant blends **nce, nse**
56. Review of words with final consonant blends
57. Two-syllable words with consonant blends
58. Initial consonant blends **bl, br**
59. Initial consonant blends **cl, cr**
60. Initial consonant blends **dr, dw**
61. Initial consonant blends **fl, fr**
62. Initial consonant blends **gl, gr, gw**
63. Initial consonant blends **pl, pr**
64. Initial consonant blend **sl**
65. Initial consonant blends **shr, sm, sn**
66. Initial consonant blends **sp, spl, spr**
67. Initial consonant blends **st, str**
68. Initial consonant blends **sw, sc, sk, scr**
69. Initial consonant blends **tr, thr, tw**
70. Words with consonant blends
71. Sentences
72. Long **a**
73. Long **a** as **a-e**
74. Sentences
75. Long **a** as **ai**
76. Sentences
77. Long **a** as **ay** and **ey**
78. Sentences
79. Long **a** as **ei** and **eigh**; sentences
80. Review of words with long **a** spellings
81. Long **a** homonyms
82. Two-syllable words with long **a** syllables
83. Vowel spellings **au** and **aw**
84. Sentences with **au** and **aw** words
85. **a** as in **ma** and **car**

86. Sentences
87. Long **e** as **ee**
88. Sentences
89. Long **e** as **ea**
90. Sentences
91. Long **e** as **e-e**; sentences
92. Long **e** as **ie**; sentences
93. Long **e** as **y**
94. Sentences
95. **ies** in verbs and plural nouns
96. Review of long **e** words
97. Sentences
98. Long **i** as **I, y, ie, uy**; sentences
99. Long **i** as **i-e**; sentences
100. Long **i** as **igh**; sentences
101. Spelling forms **ough** and **augh**
102. **f** as **gh**
103. Long **o** as **o-e**
104. Sentences
105. Long **o** as **oa**; sentences
106. Long **o** as **ow**; sentences
107. Long **o** as in **old**; sentences
108. Common irregular words; sentences
109. **oo** as in **good food**
110. Sentences
111. **ould** sounding as **ood** in **wood**; sentences
112. **ow** and **ou** as in **cow** and **ouch**
113. Sentences
114. **oy** as in **boy**; **oi** as in **oil**; sentences
115. Long **u** as **u-e**; sentences
116. Long **u** as **ue** and **ui**; sentences
117. Long **u** as **ew** and **eu**; sentences
118. **er, ir, or, ur, ear**; sentences
119. Words ending in **le**; silent **t**; sentences
120. **f** as **ph**
121. **sh** as **ti, ssi, ci, ce, sci, xi, su, ssu**;
zh as **si, su**; **ch** as **tu, ti**; sentences
122. **n** as **kn**
123. **m** as **mb**; **t** as **bt**
124. Silent **h**
125. **r** as **wr**
126. **s** as **st**; **f** as **ft**
127. **k** as **ch**; **s** as **ps**
128. **y** as short **i**

ENGLISH ALPHABETIC SYSTEM COMMON SPELLING FORMS

Sound

Vowels

short a	a as in cat
short e	e as in met ; ea as in bread
short i	i as in sit ; y as in myth, gym
short o	o as in top
short u	u as in cup ; ou as in precious
long a	a-e as in ate ; ai as in wait ; ay as in way ; ei as in veil ; igh as in eight ; a as in apron ; ey as in they
long e	ee as in tree ; ea as in eat ; ie as in field ; e as in me ; e-e as in eve ; y as in happy, city ; ei as in receive
long i	i-e as in time ; igh as in high ; y as in try ; ie as in lie ; i as in item
long o	o as in go ; o-e as in home ; oa as in boat ; ow as in snow ; oe as in toe
long u	u-e as in use ; ew as in new ; ue as in true ; iew as in view
oo	oo as in food
oo	oo as in good ; oul as in could, should
ou/ow	ou as in out ; ow as in cow
oi/oy	oi as in oil ; oy as in boy
a (ah)	a as in car, father
a	a as in care, there, heir, fair
a/au/aw	a as in all ; aw as in law ; au as in cause ; ough as in ought ; augh as in taught ; o as in loss
er	er as in germ ; ir as in girl ; ur as in fur ; ear as in earn ; or as in work
o	o as in born, core

Consonants

b	b as in bat, cab
d	d as in did
f	f as in fan ; ph as in phone ; gh as in rough, laugh
g	g as in get ; gh as in ghetto
h	h as in house ; wh as in who
j	j as in jam , g as in gem, angel, ginger ; dge as in fudge
k	k/ck as in kick ; c as in cat ; ch as in chorus ; qu as kw (quit = kwit); x as ks (rex = wrecks)
l	l as in lull
m	m as in mom
n	n as in nut ; kn as in knee ng as in sing ; nk as in sink
p	p as in pep
r	r as in ran, car ; wr as in wrap, write
s	s as in sell ; c as in cell ; ps as in psychic
t	t as in ten, net
v	v as in van, have ; f as in of
w	w as in well
y	y as in yes
z	z as in zoo ; s as in has
th	th as in the, with, father th as in thin, think, truth
ch	ch as in chin, rich ; tch as in catch ; tu as in capture, picture ; ti as in question
sh	sh as in she, wish ; ti as in nation, patient ; su as in sure ; ci as in special, precious ; ce as in ocean ; ssi as in mission ; sci as in conscious ; xi as in noxious ; ssu as in issue
wh	wh as in where, when
zh	su as in pleasure ; si as in fusion

Cursive Alphabet

Introducing Cursive

One of the most important tools of literacy that an individual must acquire is good cursive handwriting. Cursive is a flowing form of handwriting in which all the letters of a word are joined. Manuscript, or print-script, which most children are taught in the first grade, is really a form of hand printing or lettering.

Most schools require children to learn cursive by the third grade. Unfortunately, many children fail to make a good transition from manuscript to cursive mainly because the third-grade curriculum does not provide enough time for or supervision over handwriting development. The result is a poor, often illegible handwriting.

But the simple truth is that most children can be taught cursive in the first grade, thereby eliminating the need for a difficult and chancy transition period in the third grade.

The virtue of teaching cursive in the first grade is that the teacher can spend more time supervising its correct acquisition. Also, students will begin developing an active tool of literacy, which they will be using for the rest of their lives.

The most important task for the parent or tutor in teaching cursive is to make sure that the student learns to hold the writing instrument correctly and form the letters correctly; that is, knowing where the letter starts and where it ends.

Cursive was developed to permit writers to obtain a fast, fluent, legible script with minimum expenditure of energy. It takes time to develop a good cursive handwriting, and that is why it is wise to begin cursive instruction in the first grade.

Most children, as they learn the letter forms, begin writing cursive in a large awkward scrawl. This is quite natural because the child is being required to perform a manual physical task, which requires considerable dexterity and precision. But in a few weeks or months, that scrawl will evolve into a neat, legible script.

There are some youngsters – and adults – who experience great difficulty in learning to write. This is usually a physical problem that has nothing to do with intelligence. This condition is called dysgraphia and can only be overcome with a great deal of practice and perseverance. Dysgraphics usually find it equally hard to learn manuscript as well as cursive. Therefore, it makes sense to concentrate on cursive, since ultimately it is the more useful and required tool of literacy.

It is very important to teach the learner to form the letters correctly the first time, for there is nothing more difficult than trying to break bad habits once they are acquired. Such future agony can be avoided by having the child do it right the first time.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee
Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj
Kk Ll Mm Nn
Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss
Tt Uu Vv Ww
Xx Yy Zz

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Patti Clay, Georgia

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