

Reception Phase 1

Free Phonics Taster Pack

A sample of the first five structured phonics lessons for early Reception readers

Includes Lessons 1-5: sounds **s**, **a**, **t** and **p**, plus a focused sound review.

Welcome

Welcome to this free Reception Phase 1 phonics taster pack. It offers a practical sample of the structure, pace and progression used in the full lesson sequence.

The pack includes the first five lessons: sounds **s**, **a**, **t** and **p**, followed by a focused review lesson.

Use each lesson as a short daily session, following the consistent routine to build early confidence in blending, segmenting, reading and spelling.

About This Taster Pack

This taster pack shows how new sounds are introduced cumulatively and reviewed to support early reading and spelling fluency.

Each lesson follows the same clear routine: warm-up, review, teach, magnetic board practice, practise, apply and close.

What's Included in This Free Taster Pack

- Lesson 1 - Focus Sound: s
- Lesson 2 - Focus Sound: a
- Lesson 3 - Focus Sound: t
- Lesson 4 - Focus Sound: p
- Lesson 5 - Sound Review: s, a, t, p

Lesson 1 - Focus Sound: s

Time	Lesson Stage	Content and Routine
2 min	Settle and warm-up	Calm breathing, ready hands, and a short listening game. Children identify whether they hear the same sound at the start of simple spoken words.
4 min	Review	Reviewed sounds and skills: oral blending, oral segmenting, rhyme, and rhythm. No grapheme cards yet. Say simple stretched words for children to blend orally and clap a simple rhythm pattern.
6 min	Teach	Introduce the sound s . Model the pure sound, mouth shape, and the grapheme. Model correct letter formation. Children air-write and finger-trace the letter while saying the sound.
5 min	Tactile magnetic board session	Children use magnetic boards to find and place the letter s . They say the sound as they pick it up, place it on the board, and trace over it with a finger. Teacher checks correct orientation and sound-saying.
5 min	Practise	Read the sound and very early words: s , a , as . Practise hearing the first sound in spoken words. Begin oral segmenting of simple words with /s/ at the start.
4 min	Apply	Sentence read: a . Sentence spelled: a . Keep this oral and teacher-modelled, with children echoing and pointing to the sound card.

2 min	Review and close	Quick success check: children show or say the sound s when prompted. Praise effort and finish with a calm ending routine.
Resources	Sound card for s ; magnetic boards; magnetic letters including s ; teacher model board; finger-tracing card; mini whiteboards; pens; listening game prompts	

Lesson 2 - Focus Sound: a

Time	Lesson Stage	Content and Routine
2 min	Settle and warm-up	Ready hands and a quick oral blending game using simple two-sound combinations.
4 min	Review	Reviewed sounds: s . Show the grapheme, say the sound, and air-write it. Quick oral review of rhyme and sound listening.
6 min	Teach	Introduce the sound a . Model the pure sound, mouth shape, and grapheme. Compare with s . Model letter formation and have children air-write and finger-trace.
5 min	Tactile magnetic board session	Children build s and a on magnetic boards. They say each sound as they place it and practise making as by sliding a finger under the letters from left to right.
5 min	Practise	Words read: as , a , sat orally introduced as sound talk. Words spelled: a , as . Practise blending a-s into as .
4 min	Apply	Sentence read: a sat . Sentence spelled: a sat . Teacher models orally and children repeat, pointing to each grapheme they know.
2 min	Review and close	Quick check: show s or a and children say the sound. End calmly.
Resources	Sound cards for s and a ; magnetic boards; magnetic letters; formation cards; mini whiteboards; pens; oral blending prompts	

Lesson 3 - Focus Sound: t

Time	Lesson Stage	Content and Routine
2 min	Settle and warm-up	Calm start and a quick sound-hearing game. Children listen for first sounds in spoken words.
4 min	Review	Reviewed sounds: s , a . Flash the graphemes, say the sounds, and blend a-s into as .
6 min	Teach	Introduce the sound t . Model the pure sound, mouth shape, grapheme, and formation. Children air-write and then write on whiteboards.
5 min	Tactile magnetic board session	Children build and read at and sat on magnetic boards using s , a , and t . Slide a finger beneath the word to blend.
5 min	Practise	Words read: at , sat , pat , tap . Words spelled: at , sat , pat . Focus on hearing each phoneme in order.
4 min	Apply	Sentence read: Pat sat . Sentence spelled: Pat sat . Teacher models oral segmentation before writing.
2 min	Review and close	Children identify s , a , or t from flashcards and say the sound. Praise and close.
Resources	Sound cards for s , a , t ; magnetic boards; magnetic letters; mini whiteboards; pens; blending strip; word cards at , sat	

Lesson 4 - Focus Sound: p

Time	Lesson Stage	Content and Routine
2 min	Settle and warm-up	Ready hands, steady breathing, then a quick oral segmenting game with short spoken words.
4 min	Review	Reviewed sounds: s , a , t . Flash and say each sound, then blend sat and at together as a group.
6 min	Teach	Introduce the sound p . Model the pure sound, mouth shape, grapheme, and formation. Children air-write and practise correct formation on boards.
5 min	Tactile magnetic board session	Children use s , a , t , and p to build tap , pat , sap , and sat on magnetic boards. They say each sound, then blend the whole word.
5 min	Practise	Words read: tap , pat , sap , sat . Words spelled: tap , pat , sap . Teacher uses sound buttons or tapping for each phoneme.
4 min	Apply	Sentence read: Pat taps . Sentence spelled: Pat taps . Model the capital letter and full stop while keeping the phonics focus on known sounds.
2 min	Review and close	Quick success check on the four taught sounds. Children say which sound is missing from a simple built word.

Resources	Sound cards for s, a, t, p ; magnetic boards; magnetic letters; mini whiteboards; pens; word cards tap, pat, sap, sat
-----------	---

Lesson 5 - Sound Review: s, a, t, p

Time	Lesson Stage	Content and Routine
2 min	Settle and warm-up	Calm breathing and a short rhythm clap to focus attention before the review lesson begins.
5 min	Review	Reviewed sounds: s, a, t, and p . Flash each grapheme, say the sounds, and revisit oral blending and segmenting with familiar words such as sat, tap, pat, and sap .
5 min	Revisit and secure	Model any uncertain letter formation for s, a, t, and p . Children air-write each sound in sequence and practise rapid recognition from flashcards.
5 min	Tactile magnetic board session	Children build and swap sounds on magnetic boards to make sat, tap, pat, sap, and at . They explain which sound changed and read each new word aloud.
6 min	Practise	Words read: sat, tap, pat, sap, at . Words spelled: sat, tap, pat . Encourage children to tap each phoneme and check the order of sounds carefully.
4 min	Apply	Sentence read: Pat sat at a tap . Sentence spelled: Pat sat . Keep the writing modelled and supported while children focus on segmenting the known words.

2 min	Review and close	Quick fluency check on the four taught sounds and a couple of familiar words. End with calm praise and a confident close.
Resources	Sound cards for s, a, t, p ; magnetic boards; magnetic letters; mini whiteboards; pens; review word cards; blending strip; sound buttons cards	