

# The Phoneme Flashcard Game

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Here is a fun way to help prepare your child for school.

Phonemes are the sounds that make up our language—there are about 44 of them. We know that children who know the phonemes when they come to school do much better in reading. In this game we will focus on consonants like b, t, c, l, m, ...

## Directions

1. Parent teaching directions are marked with dots (•). When you see a letter in between slashes (/b/), that means say the sound. If the letter is in italics (*d*), say the name of the letter.

*(continued on back)*

## Some Things to Keep in Mind

- Some “soft” sounds are hard for young children to hear, like f, h, and s. Start with “hard” sounds like b, t, and d.
- If your child does not know the name of the picture, tell him or her and talk about it. Show the child other pictures or real life examples.
- This game allows you to keep track of your child’s progress. You can do this with other skills too.
- Making letter sounds: Try not to put vowel sounds at the end of the letters. For example, do not say “tuh” for the t sound.

**b**



**c**



2. Questions: After you teach the sound and letter name (and talk about it), you can ask the child the questions on the back of the cards. Remember, this is a game and you shouldn't push too hard. **If the child can't answer a question, just say the answer after about three seconds. Many children need more than one or two times hearing the letter sounds and names before they get it.**

3. If your child does answer correctly, put a check in the box and praise the child (Good job!).

Remember to have fun and celebrate progress. Along with reading to your child, this activity may help your child become a good reader.

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, cat.
- Listen - /c-a-t/.
- The first sound is /c/.
- Say /c/.
- The letter is *c*. Say *c*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a cat. What is the first sound in cat?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *c* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /c/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in c-a-t?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, ball.
- Listen - /b-a-ll/.
- The first sound is /b/.
- Say /b/.
- The letter is *b*. Say *b*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a ball. What is the first sound in ball?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *b* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /b/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in b-a-l-l?

d

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f

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g

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h

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**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, foot.
- Listen - /f-oo-t/.
- The first sound is /f/.
- Say /f/.
- The letter is *f*. Say *f*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a foot. What is the first sound in foot?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *f* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /f/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in f-oo-t?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, house.
- Listen - /h-ou-s/.
- The first sound is /h/.
- Say /h/.
- The letter is *h*. Say *h*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a house. What is the first sound in house?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *h* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /h/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in h-ou-s?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, dog.
- Listen - /d-o-g/.
- The first sound is /d/.
- Say /d/.
- The letter is *d*. Say *d*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a dog. What is the first sound in dog?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *d* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /d/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in d-o-g?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, girls.
- Listen - /g-ir-l-s/.
- The first sound is /g/.
- Say /g/.
- The letter is *g*. Say *g*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here are some girls. What is the first sound in girls?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *g* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /g/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in g-ir-l-s?

j

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k

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l

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m

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**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, keys.
- Listen - /k-ee-s/.
- The first sound is /g/.
- Say /f/.
- The letter is *k*. Say *k*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here are keys. What is the first sound in keys?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *k* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /k/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /k-ee-s/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, man.
- Listen - /m-a-n/.
- The first sound is / m/.
- Say / m/.
- The letter is *m*. Say *m*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a man. What is the first sound in man?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *m* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /m/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /m-a-n/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, jet.
- Listen - /j-e-t/.
- The first sound is / j/.
- Say / j/.
- The letter is *j*. Say *j*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a jet. What is the first sound in jet?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *j* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /j/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in j-e-t?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, leaf.
- Listen - /l-ee-f/.
- The first sound is /l/.
- Say /l/.
- The letter is *l*. Say *l*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a leaf. What is the first sound in leaf?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *l* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /l/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /l-ee-f/?

n



p



r



s



**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, pencil.
- Listen - /p-e-n-c-i-l/.
- The first sound is /p/.
- Say /p/.
- The letter is *p*. Say *p*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a pencil. What is the first sound in pencil?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *p* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /p/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /p-e-n-c-i-l/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, sun.
- Listen - /s-u-n/.
- The first sound is /s/.
- Say /s/.
- The letter is *s*. Say *s*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here are sun. What is the first sound in sun?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *s* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /s/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /s-u-n/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, nose.
- Listen - /n-o-s/.
- The first sound is /n/.
- Say /n/.
- The letter is *n*. Say *n*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here is a nose. What is the first sound in nose?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *n* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /n/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /n-o-s/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, rake.
- Listen - /r-a-k/.
- The first sound is /r/.
- Say /r/.
- The letter is *r*. Say *r*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a rake. What is the first sound in rake?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *r* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /r/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in r-a-k?



**t**

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**v**

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**w**

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**z**

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**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, van.
- Listen - /v-a-n/.
- The first sound is /v/.
- Say /v/.
- The letter is *v*. Say *v*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a van. What is the first sound in van?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *v* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /v/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /v-a-n/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, zipper.
- Listen - /z-i-pp-e-r/.
- The first sound is /z/.
- Say /z/.
- The letter is *z*. Say *z*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a zipper. What is the first sound in zipper?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *z* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /z/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /z-i-pp-e-r/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, top.
- Listen - /t-o-p/.
- The first sound is /t/.
- Say /t/.
- The letter is *t*. Say *t*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here's a top. What is the first sound in top?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *t* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /t/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /t-o-p/?

**Parent says:**

- What is this? Yes, web.
- Listen - /w-e-b/.
- The first sound is /w/.
- Say /w/.
- The letter is *w*. Say *w*.

**Parent asks child:**

1. Here are web. What is the first sound in web?
2. What letter is this?
3. What sound does *w* make?
4. Do you know another word that begins with /w/?
5. How many other sounds can you hear in /w-e-b/?