

The Magic 7

Phonics flashcards — seven sounds, about a hundred readable words.



These are the first sounds taught in nearly every modern phonics program, and there's a good reason: just these seven letters unlock dozens of real, three-letter words on day one. **sat, pin, tap, man, sit, map, an, in.** Each card has the letter, the sound, an action, and example words. Cut along the lines, deal one a day, and watch your child read.

HOW TO TEACH A SOUND

- 1 Show the letter. Say the sound (not the letter name).
- 2 Do the action together. Repeat 3 or 4 times.
- 3 Find 5 things in the room that start with the sound.
- 4 Add yesterday's sound back into the pile and mix them up.
- 5 After 3 sounds, try blending two together: s + a = "sssaaa"

✂ Cut along the dotted lines. Print on cardstock for durability.



/sss/

as in snake

ACTION

Wiggle your arm like a snake while making the sss sound

EXAMPLE WORDS

sat

sip

sun

sock



/aaa/

as in apple

ACTION

Pretend to bite an apple — aaa, aaa, aaa

EXAMPLE WORDS

at

ant

apple

ax

✂ Cut along the dotted lines. Print on cardstock for durability.

**/t/****as in tap****ACTION**

Turn your head side to side like a clock — t, t, t

EXAMPLE WORDS**tap****top****ten****toe****/p/****as in pop****ACTION**

Pretend to pop bubbles — p, p, p

EXAMPLE WORDS**pat****pin****pot****pen**

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/iii/

as in igloo

ACTION

Wiggle fingers in front like rain — iii, iii

EXAMPLE WORDS

it

in

igloo

ill



/nnn/

as in nose

ACTION

Touch your nose and hum — nnn, nnn

EXAMPLE WORDS

no

nap

nut

net

✂ Cut along the dotted lines. Print on cardstock for durability.



/mmm/

as in yummy

ACTION

Rub your tummy — mmm, yummy!

EXAMPLE WORDS

mat

mom

man

map

Spare card — cut and keep
for a sound of your own

Magic 7 Sound Mat

Keep this on the table during practice — point and say the sound.

s
/sss/
snake

a
/aaa/
apple

t
/t/
tap

p
/p/
pop

i
/iii/
igloo

n
/nnn/
nose

m
/mmm/
yummy

HOW TO USE

- 1 Teach one sound at a time. Show the letter, make the sound, do the action.
- 2 Always teach the sound (sss), not the letter name (ess).
- 3 After 3 sounds, try blending — slide your finger under s-a-t and stretch the sounds together.
- 4 Five minutes a day is plenty. Stop while it's still fun.

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