

Consonant Sounds

A sound map for early readers. Listen for the first sound in each anchor word.

Letter name and sound

The letter **b** is named “bee,” but its reading sound is **/b/** in **ball**. For quick stop sounds such as /b/, /d/, /p/, /t/, /k/, and /g/, say the sound briefly without adding “uh.”

Common single-letter consonant sounds

b /b/ ball	d /d/ dog	f /f/ fan	h /h/ hat
j /j/ jam	k /k/ kit	l /l/ log	m /m/ map
n /n/ net	p /p/ pig	r /r/ rug	s /s/ sun
t /t/ top	v /v/ van	w /w/ web	z /z/ zip

First and last sounds

map begins /m/ and ends /p/. **sun** begins /s/ and ends /n/. Say the first sound, the vowel sound, and the last sound, then blend the word.

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Consonant Sounds - More Practice

Some letters have more than one job. Use the anchor word first, then introduce the extra information.

Special letters

Letter	Anchor sound	Remember
c	/k/ in cat	C can also say /s/ in city.
g	/g/ in gum	G can also say /j/ in gem.
y	/y/ in yes	Y can be a vowel in other words.
q	/kw/ in queen	Q is usually followed by u.
x	/ks/ in box	X is often heard at the end of a word.

Voiced and quiet pairs

/p/ and /b/ pig - ball	/t/ and /d/ top - dog	/k/ and /g/ kit - gum	/f/ and /v/ fan - van	/s/ and /z/ sun - zip
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Five-minute listening routine

1. Listen: Choose three anchor words and hear each one. **2. Say:** Repeat the first consonant sound, then the whole word. **3. Find:** Ask, "What sound do you hear first?" **4. Blend:** Read one CVC word such as map or sun.

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