



Letter Sounds Checklist

Overview

Can your child.....

- Identify the first sounds in words? (“What sound does your name start with?” /r/ for Robin)
- Recognize similar sounds in words? (“Dog starts with the sound /d/, what else starts with /d/?” or “What sound is the same in “cat”, “car” and “call”?”)
- Change sounds in words to make new words? (“Hat starts with /h/ but what if I change it to start with /k/? You get cat!”)
- Make simple rhymes (rat, mat, sat...) and/or identify which one out of a series does not rhyme (rat, dog, sat)?
- Blend sounds together to form a word (what would you get if you put /b/ /u/ and /g/ together?)

Continue on for some more activity ideas you can use as an informal skills check-in. Please note this is not a diagnostic tool. Please reach out to a professional for a comprehensive assessment if you have any concerns about your child's development.

Resources in Partnership with Bright Lights Psychology

What have you observed:

Phonemic Awareness Activity

Can your child identify sounds in words?

1

First sound in the word:

“When I hear the word cat, the first sound I hear is /k/.

What sound do you hear?

/k/ that’s right!”



Let’s try some more:

What’s the first sound you hear in pencil? - /p/

What’s the first sound you hear in apple? - /a/

What’s the first sound you hear in skate? /s/

2

Now let’s do the sounds at the end of the word:

“When I hear the word dog, the last sound i hear is /g/.

What do you hear?

/g/ that’s right!”



Let's try some more:

What’s the last sound you hear in fun? - /n/

What’s the last sound you hear in hat ? - /t/

What’s the last sound you hear in class ? /s/

What did you observe:



Blending and Segmenting Words Activity

Can your child break words up into sounds and put them back together?

1

Listen to how I can take words apart by saying the sounds slowly. Tap /t/ /a/ /p/.



Let's try some other words:

Now try nap - /n/ /a/ /p/

Now try shy - /sh/ /ie/

Now try pit - /p/ /i/ /t/

2

I can also squish sounds together to make words.
/b/ /eye/ /k/ - bike



Now let's try some other words:

Now try /c/ /a/ /n/ - can

Now try /b/ /uu/ /k/ - book

Now try /s/ /ow/ /n/ /d/ - sound

What did you observe:



Playing with Sounds Activity

Can your child play with sounds in words?



Say the word dog. Now say the word dog without the /d/ sound. The child should say “og”.



Say the word man. Now say the word man without the /m/ sound. The child should say “an”.



Say the word hat. Now say the word hat without the /h/ sound. The child should say “at”.



Listen to the word ball. If I take out the /b/ sound and add the sound /t/, what is the new word?



Listen to the word fat. If I take out the /f/ sound and add the sound /k/, what is the new word?



Listen to the word sad. If I take out the /ad/ sound and add the sound /ong/, what is the new word? (not sure if there is better example for the last word, etc.)

What did you observe: