Name _____ Date _____

Heart words

Some words have a tricky part. We learn that part by heart.

1 Learn



Most words sound just like their letters. But some words have a part that **doesn't**. That's the **tricky part**. We put a heart on it!

d	o	g
d	o	g

dog: every letter sounds as it looks

s	ai	d
s	e, as in bed	d

said: the ai is the tricky part

How to read a heart word: was

1. Sound out the letters you know: **w** … **s**.
2. Find the part that sounds different. Here it's the **a**.
3. Remember: in **was**, the **a** sounds like the **o** in dog.
4. Read the whole word: **was**. "It **was** sunny."

was

Flip's tip: tricky words are also called **common exception words**, or **sight words**. You see them in books all the time, so they're worth learning by heart.

Warm up: read each word to a grown-up. Tick the box when you can read it.

- the ☐
- said ☐
- was ☐
- they ☐
- you ☐
- friend ☐

Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud. Tricky words can't be fully sounded out, so it's fine to tell your child the word, point to the tricky part, and read it together again.

Name _____ Date _____

2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Heart word hunt

You need: a picture book or story book from home, and a pencil.

1. Open the book at any page with lots of words.
2. Hunt for the five heart words in the table. Point to each one you find.
3. Read it out loud, then make a mark in its row. Use your finger to keep your place.
4. Turn the page and hunt again. Which word did you find the most?

Heart word	A mark each time you find it
the	
was	
said	
they	
you	

Grown-ups: let your child do the finding. If they stop at a word, ask "Which part is tricky?" and read it together. The word "the" will win in most books: it's the most common word in English!

3 Practise

A. Read each word. Draw a little heart over its **tricky part**.

was	said	they
of	school	friend

Name _____ Date _____

B. Read the sentence. Ring the word that makes sense.



I _____ a dog.

was saw



It _____ hot.

saw was



_____ are my pals.

The They



Mum _____ yes.

sad said

C. The tricky part is shaded. Draw a line to the sound it makes.

said •	•  **k** as in kite
was •	•  **oo** as in moon
school •	•  **e** as in bed
you •	•  **o** as in dog



Challenge

Leo reads **said** as "s-a-i-d, sayd". Is he right? What could you tell him?

_____

_____



I can… Tick when you can.

- ☐ read said, was, they and you
- ☐ find the tricky part of a word
- ☐ draw a heart over the tricky part