Name _____ Date _____

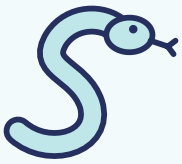
Letter sounds a to z

Every letter has a sound. We use the sounds to read.

1 Learn



Every letter has a **name** and a **sound**. When we read, we use the **sound**. The letter **s** says **sss**, like a hissing snake!

s → 

sss!

We read with the sound: **sss**.
Its name is "ess", but we don't read with that.

Say it short and clear. Look at the letter, then say its sound.

m **mmm**
a **stretchy** sound: you can hold it

t **t**
a **bouncy** sound: quick, not "tuh"

a **a**
as at the start of **apple**

Flip's tip: some sounds are **stretchy**, like sss, mmm and fff. Some are **bouncy**, like t, p and b. Keep the bouncy ones short: say **b**, not "buh".

Warm up: point to each letter and say its sound.

s **a** **t** **p** **i** **n** **m** **d** **g** **o**

Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud. Say each sound short and clear, with no "uh" on the end (m, not "muh"). It's good to know letter names too, but for reading we use the sounds.

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



Sound hunt

You need: this sheet, a pencil, and the things in a room at home.

1. Point to a letter in the table. Say its **sound** together.
2. Hunt round the room for things that **start with that sound**. Say each word slowly: **sss**-ock, sock.
3. Draw or write two things you found.
4. In the last row, pick a letter of your own.

Letter	I said its sound	Things we found (draw or write)
s		
m		
b		

Grown-ups: ideas if you get stuck: s for sock, sofa, spoon; m for mug, mat, milk; b for book, bed, bag. If your child finds a cup or a kettle, that's a great find for c and k: they make the same sound.

3 Practise

A. Say the word for the picture. What is its **first sound**? Draw a ring round the letter.



m s t



c a n



p t h



b p d



w v m



e o a

The pictures are: sun, cat, hat, pig, web and apple.

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B. **b** or **d**? Say the word for the picture. Write **b** or **d** in each gap.



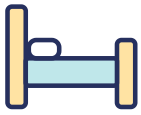
___og



___all



___uck



___e___

Flip's tip: make a **bed** with your hands. Make two fists with your thumbs up, then put your knuckles together. Your left hand makes a **b** and your right hand makes a **d**.

C. A sound for every letter! Point to each letter and say its sound. Colour the box when you know it.

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r
s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	

Challenge

Sam says, "The first sound in **sun** is **ess**." Is he right? What is the first sound? Talk about it, then write it.

_____

I can... Tick when you can.

- ☐ say a sound for each letter, a to z
- ☐ hear the first sound in a word
- ☐ tell b and d apart