Name _____ Date _____

First sounds

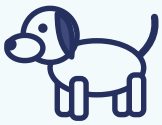
Every word starts with a sound. Listen for it!

1 Learn



Every word starts with a sound. Say **dog** slowly: **d**... og. The very first sound is **d**. Then we find its letter!

1



Say the word slowly: **d... og**

→

2

d, d!

Say just the first sound: **d**

→

3



Find its letter: the frog jumps to **d**!



b or d? Think of a **bed**. The **b** is the head of the bed and the **d** is the foot. **b** comes first, at the head.

c and k make the same sound: **c**at, **k**ite.

Flip's tip: bounce on the start of the word: **m, m, mug**. The sound you bounce on is the first sound.

Warm up: say each picture's name. Ring the pictures that start like **sun**.









Grown-ups: say each word slowly and clearly, and use sounds, not letter names. If your child picks the last sound (s for bus), say the word again with a bounce on the start: "b, b, bus".

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



I spy first sounds

You need: the room you're in, and a pencil for the table.

1. The grown-up says: "I spy with my little eye something beginning with… **mmm**." Say the sound, not the letter name.
2. The child looks for things that start with that sound: a **m**ug, a **m**at… even **M**um!
3. Swap! The child picks something and says its first sound for the grown-up to guess.
4. After each round, draw the thing and write its first letter (the grown-up can help).

Round	What did we spy? (draw it)	Its first letter
1		
2		
3		
4		

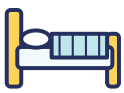
Grown-ups: pick things with a clear single first sound (mug, pen, sock). Words starting with sh, ch or th have a two-letter first sound: save those for Chapter 5.

3 Practise

A. Say the picture's name. Ring the letter for its **first** sound.


b d g


n s m


d b e


p c o


t h n


v n w

Name _____ Date _____

B. Say the letter's sound. Draw a line to the picture that starts with it.



C. Odd one out! Ring the picture that starts with a **different** sound.



D. Say the picture's name. Write its first letter in the box.



Challenge



Sam says the first sound in **bus** is **s**. Is he right? Say **bus** slowly. What sound do you hear first?

I can... Tick when you can.

- [ ] hear the first sound in a word
- [ ] find the letter for that first sound
- [ ] tell b and d apart with the bed trick