Reading words: answers and notes

What your child practised: reading simple three-letter words (CVC words) by saying the sound for each letter and blending them, using sound buttons (Reception phonics).

Page 1 · Warm up

One dot under each letter: **d-o-g** dog · **p-e-n** pen · **c-u-p** cup

Page 2 · Word train

cup · pen · hat · bag · mug. Three sound buttons in every word.

Page 2 · A. Read and draw

1 a **log** · 2 a **bug**. Any drawing that shows the word is right.

Page 3 · B. Word to picture

cat → **cat** · bed → **bed** · pig → **pig** · fox → **fox** · bus → **bus**

Page 3 · C. Ring the word

hat: **hat** · cup: **cup** · pen: **pen**
dog: **dog** · bag: **bag** · mop: **mop**

Challenge: No. The word is **dog**. Leo guessed from the first letter. To check, press every sound button: d… o… g, then slide and blend: **dog**. Duck would end with a different sound.

Watch out for

- **Guessing from the first letter** (duck for dog). Cover the word and reveal it one letter at a time.
- **Mixing up the middle sound** (hut for hat, pin for pen). The vowels a, e, i, o, u sound alike to young ears. Say just the middle sound together and point to it.
- **Saying the sounds but not blending** ("c… a… t" and stop). Say them again faster and sweep the arrow: "c-a-t, cat!"

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Fridge words:** make a word with magnetic or paper letters and swap one letter at a time: cat, hat, hot, hop.
- **Finger buttons:** say a word and tap its sounds on three fingers, then sweep across to blend.
- **In the game:** Chapter 5, Letter Buddies, meets two letters that make one sound, like sh and ee.