Name _____ Date _____

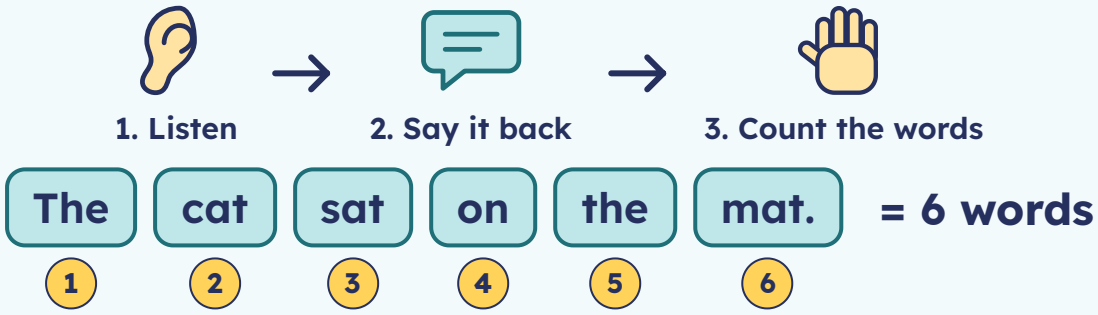
Say it, count it

Hold a sentence in your head, then count its words.

1 Learn



When you hear a sentence, **say it back** straight away. Then **count the words** on your fingers, so none go missing.



Dad says: "We had fish for tea."

1. **Listen** to the whole sentence, right to the end.
2. **Say it back:** "We had fish for tea."
3. **Count:** touch a finger for each word. We (1) had (2) fish (3) for (4) tea (5).
4. That's **5 words**. Now you know how many to write.

Flip's tip: say the sentence back **twice** before you count. Saying it out loud helps it stay in your head.

Warm up: read each sentence with a grown-up. How many words?

I can see a dog. ☐ The sun is hot. ☐

Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud. Say sentences at a normal speed and let your child repeat them before counting. Small words like "a", "the" and "is" go missing most often.

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



Sentence train

You need: 10 small things to line up, like spoons, building blocks, pegs or socks.

1. The grown-up says a sentence. (Ideas are in the Grown-ups note below.)
2. The child **says it back**. Did it come out the same?
3. Say it again slowly. Put down **one thing for each word**, in a line like a train.
4. Count the train. Write how many words. Then **swap**: the child makes up a sentence for the grown-up!

Go	Who said it?	Said it back? (tick)	How many words?
1			
2			
3			
4			

Grown-ups: try "I like jam." (3), "The bus is red." (4), "We can go to the park." (6) and "My cat sleeps on my bed." (6). If a word goes missing, say the sentence again and touch each thing in the train as you say each word.

3 Practise

A. Put a dot under each word. Then write how many words.

Sam has a hat.

☐ words

Look at the big red bus.

☐ words

I can run fast.

☐ words

Like this: We can hop. has 3 dots, so it has 3 words.

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B. Count the words. Draw a line from each sentence to its number.

Go to bed.	5
Dad has a van.	3
The hen has six eggs.	6
The fox ran into the wood.	4

C. A grown-up reads Leo's sentence aloud. Leo wrote it, but lost a word! Draw a **^** where the word should go, then write the missing word.

I went to shop with Gran.

Missing word: _____

My dog to dig.

Missing word: _____

D. Listen to a grown-up's sentence. Say it back, then draw a box for each word.

Sentence 1 ☐ words

Sentence 2 ☐ words

Challenge

Ava hears: **"The dog ran up the hill."** She says it back and counts **5 words**. Is she right? Count it yourself.

_____

I can… Tick when you can.

- ☐ say a sentence back after I hear it
- ☐ count the words in a sentence on my fingers
- ☐ spot when a word has gone missing