Spell it out loud: answers and notes

What your child practised: using letter names to spell short words out loud, like c-a-t ("see, ay, tee"), with the letters in the right order. Year 1 spelling, national curriculum in England.

Page 1 · Warm up

p i g: the word is **pig**.

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Check that each word in the table is spelled with the letters said, in the same order.

Page 2 · A. Match the picture

s-u-n **sun** · h-a-t **hat** · c-u-p **cup** · b-e-d **bed**

Page 3 · B. Ring the right spelling

box · **bag** · **pen**

Page 3 · C. Write the letters

m a p (map) · **f o x** (fox) · **j a m** (jam)

Page 3 · D. Now you spell

bus "bee, you, ess" · leg "ell, ee, gee" · web "double-you, ee, bee" · yes "why, ee, ess" · quiz "queue, you, eye, zed"

Challenge: No. Sam said the right letters in the wrong order, so he spelled **pot**. Top is **"tee, oh, pee"**. Ask your child to point left to right as they spell.

Watch out for

- **Mixing up b and d**, as in "dee" for bag or bed. Use the "bed" trick: b at the start, d at the end, like the two ends of a bed.
- **The right letters in the wrong order**, as in pot for top. Say the word slowly, sound by sound, and match each sound to a letter as you go.
- **Saying sounds instead of names** ("c, a, t" as sounds). That's how we read: for spelling out loud, ask "What are the letters called?"
- **qu in quiz**: q is almost always followed by u, so quiz is "queue, you, eye, zed".

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Secret spelling:** spell out loud something you can both see, starting with short words such as "bee, ee, dee" for bed. Your child points to it.
- **Name spelling:** spell your child's name and family names out loud with letter names.
- **In the game:** Chapter 5, Same sound, different spellings, uses letter names to tell spellings like ee and ea apart.