# Sneaky sounds: answers and notes

What your child practised: spelling sounds with unusual letters: ou for 'uh' (young), y for 'i' (gym), eigh and ey for 'ay' (eight, they), and ch for 'k' (school) or 'sh' (chef) (Year 3 spelling).

### Page 1 · Warm up

young · gym · **eight** · school

### Page 2 · Sound detectives

Answers will vary. Check each word is in the column for its sneaky pattern.

### Page 2 · A. Correct spelling

1. **young** · 2. **eight** · 3. **gym** · 4. **chef** · 5. **touch**

### Page 3 · B. Sort

**ou:** double, trouble · **y:** myth, pyramid
**eigh, ey:** weigh, they · **ch 'k':** echo, school
**ch 'sh':** machine, chef

### Page 3 · C. Sentences

1. **neighbour** · 2. **echo** · 3. **double** · 4. **machine** · 5. **country**

**Challenge:** No. **ate** is the past of eat. The number is **eight**: "There are eight legs on a spider." A memory trick: eight uses **eigh**, just like weigh and neighbour.

## Watch out for

- **Spelling by sound** (yung, ate for eight, jim). Say "That's how it sounds; which sneaky letters does this word use?"
- **Mixing up the two ch sounds** (skool, shef). Sort words into 'k' and 'sh' families and say them aloud together.
- **Leaving out letters in eigh** (eght, weih). The four letters e-i-g-h make the 'ay' sound together.

## Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Air writing:** say a word (touch, gym, weigh, chef); your child writes it in the air with a finger and spells it aloud.
- **Sound sort:** on a walk, spot words on signs with ou, y, eigh or ch, and say which sound they make.
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, Builder's Bridge, adds prefixes like un-, dis- and mis- to words.