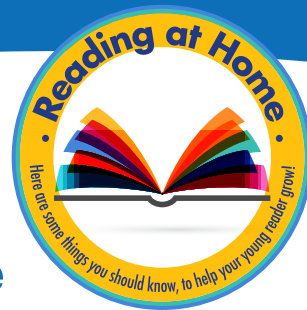


# Phonics Activities



GRADES

2-3

## Reading Activities for the Home



- Make blend sounds and have your child write the letters that match the sounds.
- Play word games that connect sounds with syllables and words. (For example, “If the letters “l-a-t-e-r” spell *later*, how do you spell *hater*?” How many syllables are in *later*?)
- Write vowel and consonant digraphs, trigraphs, and blends on cards. Hold up the cards one at a time and have your child say the sounds. (For example, the long *e* sound /ē/ for the vowel digraphs *ea* and *ee*)
- Writing Words:** Many children love to send and receive notes, and writing is a great way to reinforce phonics skills. Send your child notes in his/her backpack or place notes on his/her pillow. Have a relative or friend send a letter or email to your child. Whenever your child receives a note, have him/her write back. Don't be concerned about spelling. Instead, have your child sound out words to the best of his/her ability.
- Hunting for Words:** Choose a blend and have your child hunt for five items beginning with that sound. As each object is found, help your child write the word on a list. For example, if the target sound is *bl*, the child might find and write *blanket, blood, blue, blizzard, and blast*.
- Hints for helping your child sound out words:
  - **First Sound:** Have your child say the first sound in the word and make a guess based on the picture or surrounding words. Double check the printed word to see if it matches the child's guess.
  - **Sound and Blend:** Have your child say each sound separately (*sss, aaa, t*) This is called sounding it out. Then say the sounds together (*sat*). This is “blending”.
  - **Familiar Parts:** When your child starts reading longer words, have him notice the parts of the word that he already knows. For example in a word such as *presenting*, your child may already know the prefix *pre-*, the word *sent*, and the word ending *-ing*.
- Play “**Memory**” or “**Go Fish**” using consonant and vowel digraphs, trigraphs, and blends.