



























































If stuck on...	Try this sound, as in...	If that doesn't sound right, try these sounds, as in:
a a_e	cat 	ball 
	baby babe 	zebra 
ai	rain 	
ar	car 	
au	pause 	
ay	play 	
c	cake 	city 
ch	chair 	school 
ck	duck 	
dge	badge 	
ee e e_e	bed 	see me Pete  the

ea	leaf 	bear 
ed	waved 	locked  added 
eigh	eight 	
er	her 	
ew	flew 	sew 
ey	key 	grey 
g	egg 	gem 
i	mitt 	lime  idea 
ie	friend 	movie  pie 
igh	right 	
ir	bird 	
kn	knot 	

lk	walk 	milk 
ng	ring 	
o o_e	on 	go  off 
	bone 	do 
oa	boat 	
oe	toe 	
oi	oil 	
oo	moon 	book 
or	fork 	world 
ou	soup 	cloud 
ough	dough 	rough 
ow	snow 	cow 

oy	boy 	
ph	phone 	
s	bus 	sugar  is 
sh	fish 	
th	feather  (Voiced sound)	three  (Unvoiced sound)
u ue u_e	up 	unicorn 
	cube 	blue 
ui	build 	suit 
ur	turn 	
wh	whale 	who 
wr	wrap 	
y	yarn 	cry  happy 

Helping a Child with Reading

When children are very young, the single most important thing we can do to ensure their success as a reader is to read to them every day. Once they are learning to read, **reading with them and supporting them becomes the most important.**



Make reading together **fun and rewarding**. Time with books should never be used as a punishment (Avoid statements like “Go to your room and read if you can’t listen.”)



Re-reading the same book several times helps to build fluency which is how accurately a child can read, with a good pace, and expression. It also helps them understand and remember what they have read. Encourage children to read to friends, siblings, grandparents, and even the dog!



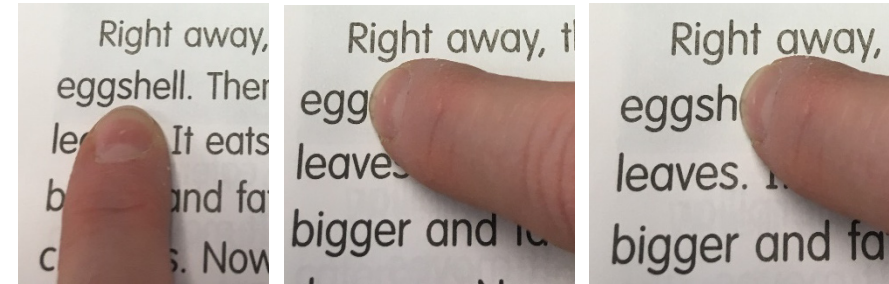
Don't automatically tell a child the correct word if they misread one. Instead, help them re-read the word and use the “When Your Child Gets ‘STUCK’ on a Word” ideas to help them. If your child is getting stuck on MANY words, the text is too hard for independent reading, but may be perfect for you to teach phonics concepts. **The back side of this page includes some of the letters and letter combinations that can trick BEGINNING readers. It shows the most common sounds that different letters and letter combinations can make in English.**



Help your child to use the pictures in a book **after** they have read the words to check for accuracy as they are reading. Pictures, drawings, captions, charts and graphs all help us to better understand the writing, especially for non-fiction or informational books, but the bulk of the meaning is conveyed in the text. We don't want children to guess words based on the pictures because as they get older there will be fewer and fewer pictures to rely on! However, when you're going to read to the child a book that is harder than they can read themselves, start by looking at the cover and pictures and talking about what it will probably be about to activate prior knowledge.

When a Child Gets “STUCK” on a Word

Point to the word and say something like, “that can be a tricky word. Try to say the all sounds.” If he or she skips a sound or uses the wrong sound for a letter, point to that letter and ask what sound it makes. Break the word into smaller parts and help your child remember the sounds those letters make.



Let's say a child gets really stuck reading the word eggshell. Here is how you would help them. (When you see a letter in / / marks in the explanation below, you say the SOUND, **not** the LETTER NAMES you see.)

“What sound does e make?” If they don't know, tell them “e can say /eee/ as in eat, or /eh/ as in **be**d. In this word it says /eh/.” Have them repeat the /eh/ sound. Point to the next letter, g, and ask “What sound?” The letter g can say /g/ as in go or /j/ as in gym. In this word, the letter g says /g/ as in go. “Now say both sounds together, /e/ /g/.” When a letter is repeated, as the g is, the sound is usually just made once.

The sh can also be hard if your child tries to make both the /s/ and the /h/ sounds. When the letters sh are together, they make a whole new sound, /sh/. Have him or her repeat the /sh/ sound, then re-read up to that point. Move on to the ‘ell’ part of the word using the same steps.

Finish by reading the whole word a few times to build confidence. Remember, learning to read can be HARD WORK. Making it a fun and rewarding experience is SO IMPORTANT.