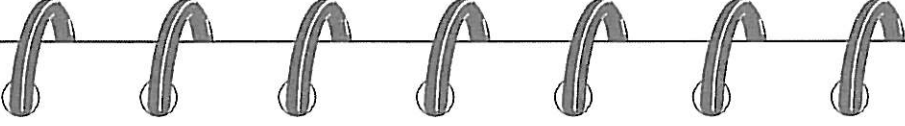




Useful Groups of Letter Sounds

Useful Groups of Letter Sounds



The 'Useful Groups of Letter Sounds' is a collection of words from the learning and teaching resources for Primary 1-3 pupils. The words selected are mainly monosyllabic (with a single syllable) and grouped according to their pronunciation and spelling in order to illustrate consistent letter-sound relationships. There are altogether 6 major groups of letter sounds:

1. Consonants (with a single letter)
2. Consonant digraphs
3. Consonant blends
4. Short vowels
5. Long vowels
6. Other vowels

Words with letter-sound relationships other than the above 6 groups (e.g. silent letters) are also provided for further reference.

For ease of reference, words in each letter-sound group are arranged in alphabetical order with the focused letter sound underlined. In many cases, words with the same onset* (opening unit) or rime* (ending unit) are put in the same column.

Please note that this word list is **neither a prescribed nor an exhaustive** list for learners. Teachers may use it as a reference when learning and/or teaching phonics.

** Refer to Session 4 of 'Understanding Phonics' in this resource package for details.*

1. Consonants (with a single letter)

Initial consonants

• Initial b

<u>b</u> ad	<u>b</u> ed	<u>b</u> ig	<u>b</u> oil	<u>b</u> un
<u>b</u> ake	<u>b</u> ee	<u>b</u> in	<u>b</u> ook	<u>b</u> urn
<u>b</u> at	<u>b</u> eg	<u>b</u> ird	<u>b</u> ox	
<u>b</u> ay	<u>b</u> ell		<u>b</u> oy	
	<u>B</u> en			

• Initial c

Hard c

<u>c</u> ake	<u>c</u> oat	<u>c</u> ube
<u>c</u> an	<u>c</u> oin	<u>c</u> up
<u>c</u> ap	<u>c</u> ollect	<u>c</u> ut
<u>c</u> ar	<u>c</u> ome	
<u>c</u> ard	<u>c</u> ook	
<u>c</u> at	<u>c</u> ow	

Soft c

<u>c</u> ell	<u>c</u> inema
<u>c</u> ent	<u>c</u> ircle
<u>C</u> entral	<u>c</u> ircus
<u>c</u> entre	<u>c</u> ity
<u>c</u> ertain	

• Initial d

<u>d</u> ad	<u>d</u> ice	<u>d</u> og	<u>d</u> ug
<u>d</u> ance	<u>d</u> irt	<u>d</u> oor	<u>d</u> uck
<u>d</u> ark	<u>d</u> ive		
<u>d</u> ate			
<u>D</u> avid			
<u>d</u> awn			
<u>d</u> ay			

• Initial f

<u>f</u> all	<u>f</u> east	<u>f</u> ire	<u>f</u> og	<u>f</u> un
<u>f</u> an	<u>f</u> ed	<u>f</u> irst	<u>f</u> or	<u>F</u> ung
<u>f</u> arm	<u>f</u> eed	<u>f</u> it	<u>f</u> ork	
<u>f</u> ast		<u>f</u> ive	<u>f</u> our	
<u>f</u> at			<u>f</u> ourth	
			<u>f</u> ox	

• Initial g

Hard g

<u>g</u> ame	<u>g</u> ear	<u>g</u> irl	<u>g</u> o	<u>g</u> uess
<u>g</u> arden	<u>g</u> eese	<u>g</u> ive	<u>g</u> oat	<u>g</u> uest
<u>G</u> ary	<u>g</u> et		<u>g</u> ood	<u>g</u> um
<u>g</u> as			<u>g</u> oose	
<u>g</u> ate				
<u>g</u> ave				

Soft g

<u>g</u> em	<u>g</u> iant
<u>g</u> enerous	<u>g</u> in
<u>g</u> entle	<u>g</u> inger
<u>G</u> eorge	<u>g</u> iraffe

• Initial h

<u>h</u> ammer	<u>h</u> e	<u>h</u> igh	<u>h</u> ome	<u>h</u> ungry
<u>h</u> appy	<u>h</u> ead	<u>h</u> ill	<u>h</u> oney	<u>h</u> unt
<u>h</u> ard	<u>h</u> eat	<u>h</u> is	<u>h</u> orse	<u>h</u> urt
<u>h</u> as	<u>h</u> en	<u>h</u> it	<u>h</u> ot	
<u>h</u> at			<u>h</u> ouse	
			<u>h</u> ow	

• Initial j

<u>J</u> ack	<u>J</u> eff	<u>j</u> igsaw	<u>j</u> ob	<u>j</u> udge
<u>j</u> am	<u>j</u> elly	<u>J</u> ill	<u>j</u> og	<u>J</u> udy
<u>J</u> ane	<u>j</u> et	<u>J</u> im	<u>J</u> ohn	<u>j</u> uice
<u>J</u> anuary			<u>j</u> oy	<u>J</u> uly
				<u>J</u> une
				<u>j</u> unk
				<u>j</u> ust

• Initial k

<u>k</u> angaroo	<u>k</u> eep	<u>k</u> id
	<u>k</u> ey	<u>k</u> ind
		<u>k</u> ing
		<u>k</u> itchen
		<u>k</u> ite

• Initial l

<u>l</u> adder	<u>l</u> eaf	<u>l</u> ight	<u>l</u> ook
<u>l</u> amp	<u>l</u> etter	<u>l</u> ip	<u>l</u> oud
<u>l</u> ate		<u>l</u> ive	

• Initial m

<u>m</u> ad	<u>m</u> e	<u>m</u> onth	<u>m</u> ind	<u>m</u> um
<u>m</u> ake	<u>m</u> en	<u>m</u> oon	<u>m</u> ine	<u>m</u> ust
<u>m</u> an		<u>m</u> ost		
<u>m</u> at		<u>m</u> other		
		<u>m</u> outh		

• Initial n

<u>n</u> ame	<u>n</u> et	<u>n</u> ice	<u>n</u> o	<u>n</u> urse
	<u>n</u> est	<u>n</u> iece	<u>n</u> oise	<u>n</u> ut
	<u>n</u> ew		<u>n</u> orth	
			<u>n</u> ose	
			<u>n</u> ote	

• Initial p

<u>p</u> acket	<u>p</u> ear	<u>p</u> ick	<u>p</u> ocket	<u>p</u> urse
<u>p</u> ain	<u>p</u> en	<u>p</u> icture	<u>p</u> oint	
<u>p</u> air	<u>p</u> et	<u>p</u> ie	<u>p</u> ool	
<u>p</u> ark		<u>p</u> ig	<u>p</u> ork	
<u>p</u> art		<u>p</u> in		
		<u>p</u> ink		

• Initial qu

<u>q</u> uarrel	<u>q</u> ueen	<u>q</u> uick	<u>q</u> uote
<u>q</u> uarter		<u>q</u> uiet	
		<u>q</u> uilt	
		<u>q</u> uit	
		<u>q</u> uite	
		<u>q</u> uiz	

• Initial r

<u>r</u> ail	<u>r</u> ead	<u>r</u> ice	<u>r</u> ope	<u>r</u> ude
<u>r</u> ain	<u>r</u> ed	<u>r</u> ide	<u>r</u> ound	<u>r</u> un
<u>r</u> at				
<u>r</u> ay				

• Initial s

<u>s</u> ave	<u>s</u> ee	<u>s</u> ick	<u>s</u> o
<u>s</u> aw	<u>s</u> ell	<u>s</u> ister	<u>s</u> ock
		<u>s</u> it	<u>s</u> oil
		<u>s</u> ix	

• Initial t

<u>t</u> all	<u>t</u> ea	<u>t</u> idy	<u>t</u> o	<u>t</u> urn
<u>t</u> axi	<u>t</u> each	<u>t</u> ight	<u>t</u> oday	
	<u>t</u> ell		<u>t</u> omorrow	
	<u>t</u> en			

• Initial v

<u>v</u> an	<u>v</u> iolet	<u>v</u> oice
<u>v</u> ase		

• Initial w

w <u>a</u> g	w <u>e</u> ak	w <u>i</u> fe	w <u>o</u> n
w <u>a</u> ist	w <u>e</u> ather	w <u>i</u> n	w <u>o</u> od
w <u>a</u> lk	w <u>e</u> ll	w <u>i</u> nd	w <u>o</u> ol
w <u>a</u> ll	w <u>e</u> t	w <u>i</u> se	w <u>o</u> rk
w <u>a</u> ve		w <u>i</u> ch	
w <u>a</u> y			

• Initial y

y <u>a</u> cht	y <u>e</u> ar	y <u>o</u> u	y <u>u</u> my
y <u>a</u> rn	y <u>e</u> ll	y <u>o</u> ur	
y <u>a</u> wn	y <u>e</u> llow		
	y <u>e</u> s		
	y <u>e</u> t		

• Initial x

x <u>e</u> rox	x <u>y</u> lophone
----------------	--------------------

• Initial z

z <u>e</u> bra	z <u>i</u> p	z <u>o</u> ne
z <u>e</u> ro		z <u>o</u> o
		z <u>o</u> om

Ending consonants

• Ending b

cr <u>a</u> b	w <u>e</u> b	b <u>i</u> b	ro <u>b</u>	cu <u>b</u>
gr <u>a</u> b		ri <u>b</u>	so <u>b</u>	ru <u>b</u>
				tu <u>b</u>

• Ending c

Hard c

disc <u>e</u>
Eric <u>e</u>
magic <u>e</u>
music <u>e</u>
picnic <u>e</u>
topic <u>e</u>

Soft c

dance <u>e</u>
fence <u>e</u>
nice <u>e</u>
once <u>e</u>
practice <u>e</u>
rice <u>e</u>

• Ending d

ba <u>d</u>	sa <u>i</u> d	fa <u>d</u> e	nee <u>d</u>	fin <u>d</u>	foo <u>d</u>	no <u>d</u>
da <u>d</u>		ma <u>d</u> e	rea <u>d</u>	kin <u>d</u>	goo <u>d</u>	
ha <u>d</u>		tra <u>d</u> e		min <u>d</u>		
ma <u>d</u>						

• Ending f

lea <u>f</u>	if <u>e</u>	loa <u>f</u>
	thie <u>f</u>	of <u>e</u>
		roo <u>f</u>

• Ending g

Hard g

ba <u>g</u>	be <u>g</u>	bi <u>g</u>	do <u>g</u>	bu <u>g</u>
fla <u>g</u>	le <u>g</u>	di <u>g</u>	fo <u>g</u>	du <u>g</u>
ta <u>g</u>	pe <u>g</u>	fi <u>g</u>	lo <u>g</u>	hu <u>g</u>
wa <u>g</u>		wi <u>g</u>		mu <u>g</u>

Soft g

age	orange	badge
page	strange	bridge
wage		edge
		large

• Ending k

ba <u>k</u>	bea <u>k</u>	fo <u>k</u>	boo <u>k</u>	li <u>k</u> e
da <u>k</u>	pea <u>k</u>	po <u>k</u>	coo <u>k</u>	Mike
ma <u>k</u>	spea <u>k</u>		loo <u>k</u>	
pa <u>k</u>				
sha <u>k</u>				

• Ending l

pa <u>l</u>	Paul	ee <u>l</u>	coa <u>l</u>
		hee <u>l</u>	
		knee <u>l</u>	

• Ending m

am	arm	seam	hum	came
ham	farm	team	mum	game
Tam	harm		sum	name
				same

• Ending n

an	main	fun
can	pain	gun
fan	rain	run
man		
pan		
ran		

• Ending p

cap	cape	cheap
gap	shape	
lap	tape	
map		
tap		

• Ending s

Voiced s

has
his
these
those
was

Unvoiced s

bus
this
yes

• Ending t

bat	net	eat	it	fight	boat	pot	but	kite
cat	pet	meat	bit	light	coat	spot	cut	write
fat	wet	neat	fit	right	goat		hut	
mat			sit				nut	
rat								
sat								

• Ending v

Day	dive	give	above	twelve
gave	five	live	love	
save	hive		move	
wave				

• Ending x

fax	sex	fix	box
		mix	fox
		six	

• Ending z

quiz

2. Consonant digraphs

Initial consonant digraphs

• Initial ch

chair	cheap	check	chick	Choi	church
Chan		cheese	China	chop	
chat		chess			

• Initial ph

Philip	phone
	photo

• Initial sh

shake	shelf	ship	shoe	shut
shall	shell	shirt	shop	
shape			short	
Shatin			shot	
			shout	

• Initial th

Voiced th

than	the	this	those	although
that	their		though	
	them			
	then			
	there			
	these			
	they			

Unvoiced th

thank	thick
	thin
	thing
	think
	third

• Initial wh

what	when	which	why
	where	white	
	whether		

Ending consonant digraphs

• Ending ch

catch	bench	rich	pitch	much	church
match	French	sandwich	witch	such	lunch
		which	stitch		touch

• Ending ck

back	deck	pick	lock	duck
lack	neck	sick	rock	luck
pack		tick	sock	
sack				

• Ending ng

bang	Cheng	Cheung	king	Fong	rung
Chang			ring	long	sung
hang			sing	song	
rang			wing		
sang					
Tang					

• Ending gh

laugh	rough
	tough

• Ending ph

graph
photograph

• Ending sh

ash	dish
cash	fish
	wish

• Ending th

bath	teeth	birth	north	cloth
math			south	month
			mouth	smooth
				tooth

3. Consonant blends

Initial consonant blends

• Initial bl

black	bleed	block	blue
blame		blow	blunt

• Initial cl

clap	cloud	club
clash	clown	
class		

• Initial fl

flag	fleet	float	fly
flat		floor	
		flow	

• Initial pl

place	please	plum
plan		plus
plane		

• Initial sl

slap	sleep	slide	slow
		slim	
		slip	

• Initial br

brain	bread	brick	broke	Bruce
brake	break	bright	brown	
brave	breed			

• Initial cr

crab	cream	crop	cry
crash	creep	crowd	
		crown	

• Initial dr

drain	dress	drip	drop	drum	dry
draw		drive			

• Initial fr

free	friend	frog
freeze		front
		frost
		froze

• Initial gr

Grace	green	grip
gram		
grandma		
grandpa		
grape		

• Initial tr

train	tree	trick	truck	try
tram		trip	true	
trap			trunk	

• Initial sk

skate	skin	sky
	skip	
	skirt	

• Initial sn

snake	sneeze
snail	snore
	snow

• Initial sp

spark	speak	spider	spoil
	spend	spin	sport
		spit	spot

• Initial st

stamp	steam	stir	stone
stand	step		stop
star			

• Initial sw

sweep	swing
sweet	

Ending consonant blends

• Ending ft

left	lift
theft	

• Ending ld

cold	build
fold	
gold	
hold	
sold	
told	

• Ending lk

milk
silk

• Ending lt

felt	built
knelt	quilt
melt	

• Ending mp

camp	jump
damp	pump
lamp	

• Ending nd

and	end	find	found
hand	lend	mind	ground
land	send		pound
sand			round
stand			sound

• Ending nk

bank	drink	junk
tank	ink	sunk
	pink	
	sink	

• Ending nt

ant	lent	joint	aunt	blunt	aren't
pant	sent	point		hunt	can't
	tent				didn't
	went				don't
					isn't
					wasn't
					weren't
					won't

• Ending sk

ask	desk	disk	dusk
flask			tusk
task			

• Ending st

fast	best	fist	first	lost	coast	August
last	nest	mist	thirst	frost	toast	dust
past	rest					just
	test					must
	west					

4. Short vowels

• Short a

a

bad	bag	am*	an*	apple	at*
dad	flag	ham	can	cap	bat
had*	tag	Sam	Chan	lap	cat
mad		Tam	fan	map	fat
sad			man	nap	hat
			pan	tap	mat
			ran		rat
			van		sat

• Short e

e

bed	beg	hen	get	egg	bell
fed		men	jet	elephant	fell
led		pen	let		sell
red		ten	met		shell
wed			net		smell
Wednesday			pet		tell
			set		well
			wet		
			yet		

ea

head	health
	wealth

* Function words (e.g. articles, pronouns and prepositions) are often unstressed and occur in a reduced form in connected speech (e.g. he (long e) becomes he (short i) in 'He is happy.' ; for (or) becomes for (schwa) in 'For me.')

• Short i

i

d <u>i</u> d*	b <u>i</u> g	in*	h <u>i</u> p	it*	fi <u>l</u>
h <u>i</u> d	di <u>g</u>	in <u>k</u>	li <u>p</u>	bi <u>t</u>	hi <u>l</u>
ki <u>d</u>	pi <u>g</u>	bi <u>n</u>	si <u>p</u>	fi <u>t</u>	mi <u>l</u>
li <u>d</u>	wi <u>g</u>	fi <u>n</u>	zi <u>p</u>	hi <u>t</u>	ti <u>l</u> l*
		pi <u>n</u>		li <u>t</u>	wi <u>l</u> l*
		ti <u>n</u>		pi <u>t</u>	
		wi <u>n</u>		si <u>t</u>	
				wi <u>t</u>	

y

Andy	foggy	chilly	creamy	Jenny	happy	cherry	clumsy	dirty
body		jelly	mummy	many	sleepy	ferry	easy	fifty
daddy		loudly	yummy	rainy		Henry	messy	forty
tidy		only		sunny		lorry		Kitty
Wendy		quickly				Mary		sixty
windy		quietly				merry		thirsty
		silly				very		thirty
		slowly						twenty
		smelly						
		ugly						

• Short o

a

what	wash	watch
------	------	-------

o

god	o <u>ct</u> opus	do <u>g</u>	cro <u>p</u>	go <u>t</u>	bo <u>x</u>	do <u>l</u> l	co <u>st</u>
no <u>d</u>	o <u>f</u> *	fo <u>g</u>	dro <u>p</u>	ho <u>t</u>	fo <u>x</u>		lo <u>st</u>
ro <u>d</u>	o <u>ff</u> *	fro <u>g</u>	ho <u>p</u>	jo <u>t</u>			
	o <u>n</u> *	lo <u>g</u>	mo <u>p</u>	lo <u>t</u>			
			po <u>p</u>	no <u>t</u> *			
			sho <u>p</u>	po <u>t</u>			
			sto <u>p</u>	sho <u>t</u>			
			to <u>p</u>	spo <u>t</u>			

• Short u

u

bu <u>g</u>	hu <u>m</u>	bu <u>n</u>	u <u>p</u> *	bu <u>t</u> *	du <u>ck</u>
du <u>g</u>	mu <u>m</u>	fu <u>n</u>	cu <u>p</u>	cu <u>t</u>	
hu <u>g</u>	su <u>m</u>	gu <u>n</u>		hu <u>t</u>	
mu <u>g</u>	su <u>mm</u> er	ru <u>n</u>		nu <u>t</u>	
tu <u>g</u>	u <u>mb</u> rella	su <u>n</u>			
u <u>g</u> ly					

o

so <u>n</u>
to <u>n</u>
won

oo

bloo <u>d</u>
floo <u>d</u>

* Function words (e.g. articles, pronouns and prepositions) are often unstressed and occur in a reduced form in connected speech (e.g. he (long e) becomes he (short i) in 'He is happy.' ; for (or) becomes for (schwa) in 'For me.')

5. Long vowels

• Long a

a-e

face	made	age	bake	sale	came	Jane	ape	base	ate	brave	paste
Grace	shade	cage	cake	tale	game	lane	cape	case	gate	cave	taste
place	spade	page	lake	whale	name	plane	grape	chase	late	gave	
race		stage	make		same		shape		plate	save	
space			shake				tape		skate	wave	
trace			snake								
			take								
			wake								

ai

aid	fail	aim	brain	paint	waist
laid	jail		chain		
maid	mail		drain		
paid	nail		grain		
	rail		main		
	sail		pain		
	snail		plain		
	tail		rain		
			train		

ay

bay	clay	pray	stay
day	play	tray	
hay			
lay			
May			
may*			
pay			
ray			
say			
way			

• Long e

e

be*
he*
me*
she*
we*

ea

pea	lead	leaf	beak	heal	beam	bean	cheap	please	eat	each	east
sea	read	leave	peak	meal	cream	clean	leap	tease	beat	beach	feast
tea			speak		dream	mean			cheat	peach	least
					scream				heat	reach	
					steam				meat	teach	
					stream				neat		
					team				seat		
									treat		

ee

bee	feed	beef	week	feel	seem	been*	deep	feet	breeze
fee	need			heel		green	keep	meet	freeze
free	seed			peel		keen	sheep	sheet	sneeze
see	weed			steel		seen	sleep	sweet	
three						teen	weep		
tree									

e-e

eve	complete
Eve	delete

* Function words (e.g. articles, pronouns and prepositions) are often unstressed and occur in a reduced form in connected speech (e.g. he (long e) becomes he (short i) in 'He is happy.'; for (or) becomes for (schwa) in 'For me.')

• Long i

ie

die
lie
pie
tie

i-e

ice	bride	life	bike	file	crime	dine	pipe	rise	kite	dive	prize
dice	hide	wife	hike	mile	mime	fine	ripe	wise		drive	size
mice	pride		kite	pile	time	line	wipe			five	
nice	ride		like	smile		mine				hive	
price	side			tile		nine					
rice	slide			while		pine					
slice	tide					shine					
spice	wide					wine					
twice											

igh

high	fight	flight	bright
sigh	light		fright
thigh	might		
	night		
	right		
	sight		
	tight		

y

by*	fly	cry
my*	sky	dry
shy	spy	fry
why		try

• Long o

oa

coach	load	coal	oat	boast
foam	road	goal	boat	coast
loaf			coat	roast
soap			float	toast
			goat	
			throat	

oe

hoe
toe

o-e

code	broke	hole	dome	bone	hope	chose	note
rode	coke	mole	home	cone	rope	close	
	joke	pole		lone		hose	
	smoke			phone		nose	
	spoke			stone		rose	
	woke			tone		those	
				zone			

ow

bow	blow	snow	grow
low	flow		throw
row	glow		
show	slow		
sow			

* Function words (e.g. articles, pronouns and prepositions) are often unstressed and occur in a reduced form in connected speech (e.g. he (long e) becomes he (short i) in 'He is happy.'; for (or) becomes for (schwa) in 'For me.')

• Long u

ew

d <u>ew</u>
f <u>ew</u>
n <u>ew</u>

ue

du <u>e</u> l	T <u>ue</u> sday
f <u>ue</u> l	

u-e

c <u>u</u> be	t <u>u</u> ne	c <u>u</u> te
t <u>u</u> be		

6. Other vowels

• ar

<u>are</u> *	<u>bar</u>	<u>card</u>	<u>bark</u>	<u>arm</u>	<u>art</u>	<u>march</u>	<u>charge</u>
	<u>car</u>	<u>hard</u>	<u>dark</u>	<u>charm</u>	<u>cart</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>large</u>
	<u>far</u>	<u>yard</u>	<u>mark</u>	<u>farm</u>	<u>part</u>		
	<u>jar</u>		<u>park</u>	<u>harm</u>	<u>smart</u>		
	<u>star</u>		<u>shark</u>				

• ir

er

<u>her</u> *
<u>term</u>
<u>verb</u>

ir

<u>birth</u>	<u>bird</u>	<u>dirt</u>	<u>first</u>
<u>girl</u>	<u>third</u>	<u>shirt</u>	<u>thirst</u>
<u>sir</u>		<u>skirt</u>	

ur

<u>burn</u>	<u>hurt</u>	<u>nurse</u>
<u>turn</u>		<u>purse</u>

• oi

oi

<u>oil</u>	<u>coin</u>	<u>choice</u>	<u>noise</u>	<u>point</u>
<u>boil</u>	<u>join</u>			<u>joint</u>
<u>soil</u>				
<u>spoil</u>				

oy

<u>boy</u>
<u>joy</u>
<u>toy</u>

• Short oo

oo

<u>good</u>	<u>look</u>
	<u>book</u>

u

<u>pudding</u>
<u>push</u>
<u>pussy</u>
<u>put</u>

• Long oo

ew

<u>blew</u>
<u>drew</u>
<u>flew</u>
<u>grew</u>
<u>threw</u>

o

<u>do</u> *
<u>to</u> *

* Function words (e.g. articles, pronouns and prepositions) are often unstressed and occur in a reduced form in connected speech (e.g. he (long e) becomes hɛ (short i) in 'He is happy.' ; for (or) becomes fɔr (schwa) in 'For me.')

oo

too*	food	roof	fool	moon	goose	shoot	tooth
zoo			pool	noon	choose		
			tool	soon			
			school	spoon			

ue

blue
glue
Sue
tissue
true

u-e

use	rude	rule	June
-----	------	------	------

• or

al

all	chalk
ball	talk
call	walk
fall	
hall	
tall	
wall	
small	

au

August
autumn
because*
caught
taught

aw

draw	dawn
jaw	drawn
paw	
raw	
saw	
straw	

or

or*	fork	born	port	torch	north	more
for*	pork	horn	short			shore
		torn	sort			store
		worn	sport			tore
						wore

ough

ought
bought
fought
thought

• ou

ou

cloud	blouse	out*	mouth	ground
loud	house	shout	south	pound
proud	mouse			sound

ow

bow	crowd	owl	brown
cow			clown
how			down
now			drown
			town

• Schwa

a

above	fireman
again	gentleman
ago	policeman
alone	postman
along	walkman
away	watchman

er

worker	farmer	daughter	brother	teacher
	summer	master	father	
		sister	mother	
		water		
		winter		

or

Victor	doctor	motor
--------	--------	-------

* Function words (e.g. articles, pronouns and prepositions) are often unstressed and occur in a reduced form in connected speech (e.g. he (long e) becomes hɛ (short i) in 'Hɛ is happy.'; for (or) becomes fɔr (schwa) in 'Fɔr me.')

For further reference

Hard and soft letters

• Hard c

Initial c

<u>c</u> ake	<u>c</u> oat	<u>c</u> ube
<u>c</u> an	<u>c</u> oin	<u>c</u> up
<u>c</u> ap	<u>c</u> ollect	<u>c</u> ut
<u>c</u> ar	<u>c</u> ome	
<u>c</u> ard	<u>c</u> ook	
<u>c</u> at	<u>c</u> ow	

Ending c

disc
Eric
magic
music
picnic
topic

• Soft c

Initial c

<u>c</u> ell	<u>c</u> inema
<u>c</u> ent	<u>c</u> ircle
<u>C</u> entral	<u>c</u> ircus
<u>c</u> entre	<u>c</u> ity
<u>c</u> ertain	

Ending c

dance
fence
nice
once
practice
rice

• Hard g

Initial g

game	gear	girl	go	guess
garden	geese	give	goat	guest
<u>G</u> ary	get		good	gum
gas			goose	
gate				
gave				

Ending g

bag	beg	dig	dog	bug
flag	leg	fig	fog	dug
tag	peg	pig	log	hug
wag		wig		mug

• Soft g

Initial g

gem	giant
generous	gin
gentle	ginger
<u>G</u> eorge	giraffe

Ending g

age	orange	badge
page	strange	bridge
wage		edge
		large

Double consonants

ff

cliff	huff
sniff	puff
stiff	stuff

ll

bell	bill	doll	dull	bull
fell	fill		skull	pull
sell	hill			
shell	ill			
smell	kill			
spell	mill			
tell	pill			
well	till			
	will			

ss

class	ble <u>ss</u>	hi <u>ss</u>	bo <u>ss</u>
gl <u>ass</u>	dr <u>ess</u>	mi <u>ss</u>	cr <u>oss</u>
gr <u>ass</u>	l <u>ess</u>	Miss	l <u>oss</u>
	me <u>ss</u>		
	pr <u>ess</u>		

zz

b <u>uzz</u>

3-letter blends

Initial chr

Chr <u>is</u>
Chr <u>ist</u>
Chr <u>istmas</u>

Initial sch

sch <u>ool</u>
sch <u>oolboy</u>
sch <u>oolgirl</u>

Initial spr

sp <u>read</u>
sp <u>ring</u>
sp <u>rinkle</u>

Initial str

str <u>ange</u>	str <u>eam</u>	str <u>ing</u>	str <u>ong</u>
str <u>aw</u>	str <u>ee</u> t		
	str <u>ength</u>		
	str <u>etch</u>		

Magic e

Long a

a-e

face	made	age	bake	sale	came	Jane	ape	base	ate	brave	paste
Gr <u>ace</u>	sh <u>ade</u>	c <u>age</u>	ca <u>ke</u>	ta <u>le</u>	ga <u>me</u>	la <u>ne</u>	ca <u>pe</u>	ca <u>se</u>	ga <u>te</u>	ca <u>ve</u>	ta <u>ste</u>
pl <u>ace</u>	sp <u>ade</u>	pa <u>ge</u>	la <u>ke</u>	wh <u>ale</u>	na <u>me</u>	pl <u>ane</u>	gr <u>ape</u>	ch <u>ase</u>	la <u>te</u>	ga <u>ve</u>	
ra <u>ce</u>		st <u>age</u>	ma <u>ke</u>		sa <u>me</u>		sh <u>ape</u>		pl <u>ate</u>	sa <u>ve</u>	
sp <u>ace</u>			sh <u>ake</u>				ta <u>pe</u>		sk <u>ate</u>	wa <u>ve</u>	
tr <u>ace</u>			sn <u>ake</u>								
			ta <u>ke</u>								
			wa <u>ke</u>								

Long e

e-e

e <u>ve</u>	comple <u>te</u>
E <u>ve</u>	dele <u>te</u>

Long i

i-e

ic <u>e</u>	br <u>ide</u>	lif <u>e</u>	b <u>ike</u>	f <u>ile</u>	cr <u>ime</u>	d <u>ine</u>	pip <u>e</u>	ris <u>e</u>	k <u>ite</u>	d <u>ive</u>	pr <u>ize</u>
d <u>ice</u>	hid <u>e</u>	wif <u>e</u>	h <u>ike</u>	m <u>ile</u>	m <u>ime</u>	fin <u>e</u>	rip <u>e</u>	wis <u>e</u>		dr <u>ive</u>	siz <u>e</u>
m <u>ice</u>	pr <u>ide</u>		k <u>ite</u>	p <u>ile</u>	t <u>ime</u>	lin <u>e</u>	wip <u>e</u>			f <u>ive</u>	
n <u>ice</u>	rid <u>e</u>		lik <u>e</u>	sm <u>ile</u>		min <u>e</u>				h <u>ive</u>	
pr <u>ice</u>	sid <u>e</u>			t <u>ile</u>		nin <u>e</u>					
ric <u>e</u>	slid <u>e</u>			wh <u>ile</u>		pin <u>e</u>					
sl <u>ice</u>	tid <u>e</u>					shin <u>e</u>					
sp <u>ice</u>	wid <u>e</u>					win <u>e</u>					
tw <u>ice</u>											

Long o

o-e

code	broke	hole	dome	bone	hope	chose	note
rode	coke	mole	home	cone	rope	close	
	joke	pole		lone		hose	
	smoke			phone		nose	
	spoke			stone		rose	
	woke			tone		those	
				zone			

Long u

u-e

cube	tune	cute
tube		

Silent letters

Silent b

climb
comb
doubt
dumb

Silent c

science
scissors

Silent g

design
sign
singer

Silent gh

high	although
sigh	though
thigh	

Silent h

exhibit	rhyme	honest	what
	rhythm	hour	when
			where
			whether
			which
			why

Silent k

knee	knife	knock
kneel	knit	know

Silent l

half

Silent n

autumn
column

Silent r

iron

Silent t

castle
whistle

Silent w

answer	wrinkle
	wrist
	wrong

Summary of 'Useful Groups of Letter Sounds'

Consonant Letter Sounds								
Consonant Letter Sounds			Consonant Digraph Letter Sounds			Consonant Blend Letter Sounds		
	Initial	Ending		Initial	Ending		Initial	Ending
b	<u>b</u> all	cr <u>a</u> b	ch	<u>ch</u> air	wh <u>ch</u>	bl	<u>b</u> lue	
c (hard)	<u>c</u> ar	mus <u>c</u>	ck		du <u>ck</u>	cl	<u>c</u> lass	
c (soft)	<u>c</u> ent	onc <u>e</u>	gh		laugh <u>h</u>	fl	<u>f</u> loor	
d	<u>d</u> oor	fo <u>o</u> d	ph	<u>ph</u> one	graph <u>h</u>	pl	<u>p</u> lane	
f	<u>f</u> ive	lea <u>f</u>	sh	<u>sh</u> ip	fish <u>h</u>	sl	<u>s</u> leep	
g (hard)	<u>g</u> o	bi <u>g</u>	th (voiced)	<u>th</u> is		br	<u>b</u> read	
g (soft)	<u>g</u> iant	lar <u>g</u> e	th (unvoiced)	<u>th</u> in	teeth <u>h</u>	cr	<u>c</u> rab	
h	<u>h</u> ead		wh	<u>wh</u> at		dr	<u>d</u> ress	
j	<u>j</u> am		ng		sing <u>g</u>	fr	<u>f</u> rog	
k	<u>k</u> ee <u>p</u>	par <u>k</u>				gr	<u>g</u> reen	
l	<u>l</u> amp	hee <u>l</u>				tr	<u>t</u> ry	
m	<u>m</u> an	ha <u>m</u>				sk	<u>s</u> ky	ask
n	<u>n</u> ame	fa <u>n</u>				sn	<u>s</u> now	
p	<u>p</u> en	cap				sp	<u>s</u> peak	
qu	<u>qu</u> een					st	<u>s</u> tar	fast
r	<u>r</u> ed					sw	<u>s</u> weet	
s (voiced)		has				ft		left
s (unvoiced)	<u>s</u> ee	bu <u>s</u>				ld		cold
t	<u>t</u> all	fa <u>t</u>				lk		milk
v	<u>v</u> an	gi <u>v</u> e				lt		felt
w	<u>w</u> alk					mp		jump
x	<u>x</u> ylophone	bo <u>x</u>				nd		hand
y	<u>y</u> es					nk		ink
z	<u>z</u> oo	qu <u>iz</u>				nt		aunt

Summary of 'Useful Groups of Letter Sounds'

Vowel Letter Sounds					
Short Vowel Letter Sounds		Long Vowel Letter Sounds		Other Vowel Letter Sounds	
Short a		Long a		ar	
a	apple	a-e	name	ar	arm
Short e		ai	aim	ir	
e	elephant	ay	day	er	her
ea	head	Long e		ir	girl
Short i		e	me	ur	turn
i	ink	ea	eat	oi	
y	happy	ee	see	oi	coin
Short o		e-e	eve	oy	boy
a	wash	Long i		Short oo	
o	octopus	ie	pie	oo	good
Short u		i-e	kite	u	put
u	umbrella	igh	high	Long oo	
o	son	y	cry	ew	drew
oo	blood	Long o		o	do
		oa	boat	oo	moon
		oe	toe	ue	blue
		o-e	nose	u-e	use
		ow	snow	or	
		Long u		al	ball
		ew	new	au	caught
		ue	fuel	aw	saw
		u-e	cute	or	fork
				ough	bought
				ou	
				ou	loud
				ow	cow
				Schwa	
				a	ago
				er	water
				or	doctor