

Phonics Scope & Sequence

A typical order for teaching beginning reading. Programs vary, so follow your own program's order.

Reader _____ Program _____ Start date _____

STAGE	WHAT YOUR CHILD LEARNS	SAMPLE WORDS	STARTED	MASTERED
1 Letter sounds Hearing and saying sounds	The most common sound of each letter, A to Z, and hearing the first sound in a spoken word.	/m/ /s/ /a/ /t/		
2 CVC words Consonant-vowel-consonant	Blending three sounds into a short-vowel word, then reading short phrases.	cat · sun · pig · hop		
3 Digraphs Two letters, one sound	sh, ch, th, wh and ck as single sounds inside short words.	ship · chop · thin · duck		
4 Blends Two or three sounds side by side	Consonant blends at the start and end of words, each sound still heard.	stop · frog · hand · milk		
5 Silent e Long vowels: vowel-consonant-e	A final e that makes the vowel say its name.	cake · bike · home · cute		
6 Vowel teams Two vowels working together	ai, ay, ee, ea, oa, ow and other common pairs.	rain · play · feet · boat		
7 R-controlled vowels "Bossy r"	ar, er, ir, or and ur, where the r changes the vowel sound.	car · her · bird · fork		
8 Multisyllable words Two syllables and more	Splitting longer words into syllables and reading each part.	sunset · picnic · rabbit		

How to use this chart

Write the date when you start a stage and when your child reads its sample words smoothly on two different days. Review earlier stages for a few minutes every lesson; mastery means the skill still works a week later.

Reader _____ Current stage _____

S = smooth: few stops, reads with expression **H** = some help: sounds out often, a few corrections
T = tough: many stops, try an easier book

Three "S" books in a row at the same stage is a good sign your child is ready for the next one. Two "T" books in a row means slow down and review.

Compare Reading Programs

Fill one column per program from the publisher's own pages and a week of free sample lessons.

WHAT TO CHECK	PROGRAM A	PROGRAM B	PROGRAM C
Program name			
Price for one year Kit, readers, extras sold separately	\$	\$	\$
Ages or levels Is there a placement test?			
Approach Scripted, multisensory, workbook, app			
Parent prep time Minutes per week to get ready			
Lesson length Minutes a day the publisher suggests			
Faith content In the publisher's own words			
Screen time None, optional or required			
Free sample or trial Sample used, and for how long			
Reusable for a sibling? Consumables to buy again			
My child's reaction After the sample week			

Our decision

☐ Program A ☐ Program B ☐ Program C ☐ Keep testing free options

OUR DEAL-BREAKERS

BECAUSE

Prices change often

Write today's price from the publisher's site, not from a review, and add the pieces sold separately before you compare.