



A Guide to the Actions and Sounds in Phonics Shed.



Chapter 1

This chapter focuses on developing vital pre-reading speaking, listening and motor skills. Children have the opportunity to listen to and identify a range of sounds including environmental, instrumental and body percussion. There are no sounds and action in this Chapter.

Chapter 2

Chapter 2 introduces all 26 letters of the alphabet, including capital letters and begins to link them to sounds. It also introduces the diagraphs 'ck' and 'qu' and the most common double letters.

Grapheme (what it looks like)	Phoneme (what it sounds like)	Action
s	snake	Hands together & wriggle upwards like a snake, from chest to face and over your head.
a	ant	Shake one finger and your head.
t	tiger	Tapping down the arm with one finger like tiger strips.
p	pig	Pat head gently with one hand.
i	imp	Hold tummy with both hands and pretend to laugh.
n	nurse	Both arms moving out from the chest slowly as if pushing a wheelchair.
m	monkey	Peeling an imaginary banana.
d	dog	Wagging hand back & forth like a dog's tail.
g	goat	Tickle an imaginary beard below the chin.
o	otter	Trap right hand under left arm.
c	cat	Make 'scissors' with your pointing and middle finger and 'cut'.
k	kangaroo	Alternating arm punches from chest quickly.
ck	duck	Hold one hand next to face like a beak and move fingers together.
e	egg	Left hand in an 'L' shape and slowly curl finger to make an 'e' shape like an animal curling up.
u	bug	Arms stuck to side and twist at waist.
r	rat	Moving arms as if running.
h	hen	Hiding eyes with hands.
b	bee	One finger reaching high into the air, 'sting' pointing up.

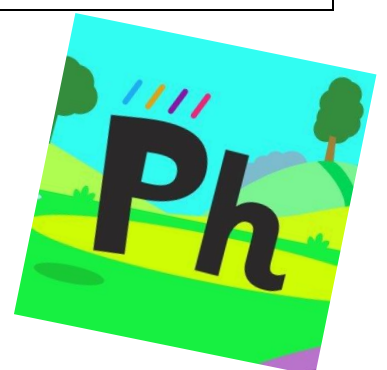


f	fly	Flap hands like wings (not arms).
l	ladybird	Slide one finger down your hand.
j	jungle	Pulling on a hat.
v	vet	Winding arms like wrapping a bandage.
w	weasel	Shovel imaginary food into mouth with both hands.
x	fox	Draw an 'X' in the air.
y	yoga	Make a 'y' with both arms together and hands in a 'v' shape in the front of body and move hands towards each other when the sound is made.
z	zebra	Draw stripes on tummy with open hands, eyes closed.
qu	queen	Pinching fingers by face, very small movements.
ff	puffin	Waddle side to side with elbows in and hands out like wings.
ll	bull	Fingers on head like horns and lower head as sound is made.
ss	grass	Wiggle and sway fingers and hand like grass in a breeze.
zz	fizz	Hands above the eyes, looking for something in the sky.
tt	bottle	Pretending to drink.
pp	hippo	Move body from side to side like a big, slow animal.
rr	parrot	One arm horizontal, across the body like a perch and the other elbow resting on top vertically like a bird on a perch.
mm	hammer	Slow hammering actions with hand.
cc	broccoli	Scrunching hand above the head.
nn	bunny	Hands in front of bunny and 'bouncing' up and down.
dd	ladder	Hands in front pretending to climb a ladder.
gg	egg	Pretending to catch an egg in cupped hands.
bb	gibbon	Monkey arms.

Chapter 3

Chapter 3 introduces a wide range of digraphs and some trigraphs. By the end of Chapter 3 the children will have been introduced to one grapheme for every phoneme.

Grapheme (what it looks like)	Phoneme (what it sounds like)	Action
ng	wing	Move elbows as wings.
ch	chicken	Move head backwards & forwards like a chicken pecking.



sh	brush	Brush one hand over the other, changing hands each time.
th (unvoiced)	think	Stick tongue out slightly.
th (voiced)	that	Stick tongue out gently and hand to throat gently to feel the vibration.
ai	snail	Fist on the top of flat hand, wiggle flat hand like a snail.
ee	sheep	Stretch out arms above as if sleepy.
igh	light	Jazz hands and scared faces.
oa	toad	Open and close fist in front of throat.
ue	statue	Sit up straight and still.
ow	owl	Hand on forehead as if it hurts.
oi	soil	One hand cupper around the throat as if shouting and one pointing to the floor.
oo	goose	Looking from side to side as if watching tennis.
oo	wood	Holding one hand vertically, tap the palm with a finger from the other hand (like a woodpecker's beak hitting a tree).
ar	star	Hand high above head clenching and unclenching.
or	horse	Hands in cup shapes downwards (like hooves) held in front of body, one moves up as the other moves down.
ur	turtle	Place on hand on top of the other and interlock fingers into a fist and rotate thumbs like swimming legs.
er	gerbil	Wipe the back of your under your nose.
er	spider	Fingers like a spider on opposite shoulder.
ear	ear	Cup both ears.
air	fairy	Flip imaginary hair with hand.
ure	treasure	Lifting lid of an imaginary treasure chest.
		Stretch mouth open wide (as if yawning).

Chapter 4

4a: In this chapter the children are introduced to the most common alternative graphemes for known phonemes.

Grapheme (what it looks like)	Phoneme (what it sounds like)	Action
oe	toe	Bend down and touch your toe as you say 'oe' 'oe' 'oe'.
ay	clay	Squeezed cupped hand together as if moulding a ball of clay.
ew	screw (oo)	Twisting hands as if using a screw driver.

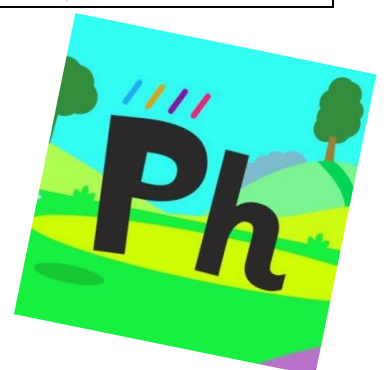


ew	newt (you)	Fast stepping action with hands like a newt scurrying.
ea	beans (ee)	Pretend to itch arm.
ey	turkey (ee)	Hands at the side of face, fan out fingers each time sound is made.
ie	cookie (ee)	Grabbing with alternative hands right and left each time sound is made.
ie	magpie	Hands out to the side (palm down) 'twinkling fingers', moving hands round to meet at the front and back out again.
aw	fawn (or)	Pretend to yawn, eyes closed and hands in front of mouth.
au	astronaut (or)	Pretend to have floaty body and arms.
ir	girl (ur)	Darw a figure of eight in the air with finger.
oy	boy (oi)	Salute.
ou	mouse	Hands under the chin like paws. Whisper sound.
are	hare (air)	One hand up in the air pointing forward and one hand back behind like a superhero.
ph	dolphin (f)	Fingers moving forward and to the other side (like a dolphin jumping out of the water).
wh	whale (w)	Hand clenched on top of head, moving up quickly and unclenching.
a-e	spade (ay)	Digging an imaginary hole with a spade.
e-e	millipede (ee)	Pointy figure, wiggle across the body.
i-e	kite (igh)	Both hands holding pretend string, looking up and moving body side to side.
o-e	cone (oa)	Acting surprised as you throw both hands up, and lean back a little to avoid slipping on something.
u-e	mule (you)	Slowly shale hands up and down like shaking maracas slowly.
u-e	Flute (oo)	Play imaginary flute both hands at one side of face, fingers moving when sound is made.

Chapter 4

4b: Chapter 4b focuses on many of the most common alternative pronunciations for known graphemes.

Grapheme (what it looks like)	Phoneme (what it sounds like)	Action
c	nancy (s)	One hand out to the side and one hand on hip, turn nose up.
g	gem (j)	Stretching arm up slowly above head with hand horizontal like a mouth/head.



i	lion (igh)	Two hands like claws near chest and the other hand waving.
u	music (ue)	One finger pointing up on top of head and one hand horizontal under chin.
e	meteor (ee)	Move fist quickly from up high to down low diagonally across the body from left to right.
ea	Heather (e)	Cross arms over the body and pull off an imaginary sweater, uncrossing arms as they come in front of the face.
ow	snow (oa)	Cross arms other and rub biceps.
or	world (ur)	Open hands like a book.
ey	grey (ai)	Two fingers like teeth in front of mouth and wiggle as sound is made.
ue	blue (oo)	Listen to an imaginary egg held in your hand.
o	ghost (oa)	Both hands on chest as if shocked.
o	who (oo)	Hold chin and scratch head as if thinking.
ch	chemist (c)	Bopping to a beat while making the sound.
a	angel (ai)	Make circle above your head like a halo.
a	wasp (o)	Swotting an imaginary wasp, as if holding a fly swotter in your hand.
y	sky (igh)	Tap the side of your nose twice with one finger.
y	jelly (ee)	Hold arms out to the side and wiggle.
y	Lynx (i)	Rubbing top of ears with fingers pointing up.
ou	soup (oo)	Both hands in front of face like a big beak, open and close with each sound.
ou	trouble (u)	One palm to forehead.
ou	mouldy (oa)	Hold arms to the side and raise them slowly forwards towards each other until you are touching the opposite elbow with each hand.
ear	earn (ur)	Bow head and tip an imaginary hat.
ear	bear (air)	Holding a pretend pear in one hand and pointing at it with another.

