

PHONEMES

Cut out these flashcards and use them to practice phonemic awareness.



g

girl, Pittsburgh

ng

sing, bank

f

fluff, sphere, tough, calf

v

van, dove

s

sit, pass, science, psychic

PHONEMES

A **PHONEME** is the smallest unit of sound in a language.

An **ALLOPHONE** is any speech sound that represents a single phoneme.

For example, the "k" in *kit* or *skit* is an allophone of the phoneme **K**.

b

*bit, br**a**t, bu**b**ble*

m

*mi**t**t, co**m**b, h**y**mn*

t

*ti**c**k**l**e, mi**t**t, si**pp**ed*

d

*di**e**, lo**v**ed*

n

*ni**c**e, kni**gh**t, g**n**at*

PHONEMES

Try saying each phoneme out loud!

Make sure your child understands how to say letters with long sounds. F, L, M, N, R, S, V and Z all have long sounds. They tend to have an "uh" sound attached to the end. This is incorrect pronunciation. For example, an "F" should be pronounced "ffff", not "fuh".



lamb, call, single



reach, wrap, her, fur, stir



you, use, feud, onion



judge, wage, bridge



cup, kite, duck, chorus, quiet

PHONEMES

Phonemes don't always match the letter that makes their sound. For example, "nose" is spelled with an "s", but the phoneme for that sound is Z.

Can you think of other words that use a different written letter than the phoneme letter?

wh

where

h

house, whole

w

witch, queen

p

pit, spider, stop

z

zoo, jazz, nose, as, xylophone

PHONEMES

These phonemes are represented with two letters, but they still make just one unit of sound.

Challenge your child to think of more words that use these phonemes!

th

thin, breath, ether

th

this, breathe, either

sh

shoe, mission, sure, charade, precious, notion, mission, special

zh

measure, azure

ch

cheap, future, etch