

New sound: d

18

Lesson 18 of 83 (ages 3-6) / 12 of 77 (age 7+) · Letter Sounds · Ages 3-7+ · about 10 min

GOAL

Your child can say /d/ when they see "d", and hear it in words like dog.

WHY IT MATTERS

Every letter sound is a building block. Once your child knows /d/, they can use it in every word it appears in: dog, dig, dip.

YOU'LL NEED

- The practice sheet for this lesson (worksheet.pdf) and a pencil or crayon.
- The lesson page on a phone or tablet, for the sounds and games.

LESSON FLOW about 10 minutes

1 min

Warm up

Quick flash of the last sounds: write "m", "n", "i" on paper, point, and your child says each sound.

SAY

"What sound is this? And this one?"

2 min

Listen

Play /d/ on the lesson page three times. Your child watches your mouth and copies.

SAY

"This is /d/. Watch my mouth: tongue behind top teeth, voice it."

2 min

Show how

Show the letter "d" and the action: Beat a drum and say d-d-d. Then tap the words on the lesson page.

SAY

"When I see d, I say /d/. dog: /d/ dog!"

2 min

Do it together

Sound hunt: find 3 things at home with /d/. Then do the trace-and-write part of the practice sheet. Read together: dip, dim, dad, sad.

2 min

Play

Play the games on the lesson page: hear /d/ and tap its letters, then find where the sound is in a word.

1 min

Wrap up

Ask your child to teach the sound and action to someone else in the family.

SAY

"Can you show Grandma our new sound?"

USE WITH THIS LESSON

- **This lesson online (listening + games)**
phonicsacademy.com/plan/session/sound-d
- **Printable: B/D Discrimination Worksheet (Free PDF)**
phonicsacademy.com/printables/b-d-discrimination-worksheet
- **Read: Phonemes List (Free PDF): 43 English Letter Sounds with Examples**
phonicsacademy.com/blog/43-english-phonemes-list
- **The "d" sound — full page**
phonicsacademy.com/phonemes/d
- **Printable: 43 Letter Sound Flashcards (PDF)**
phonicsacademy.com/printables/abc-phonics-flashcards-43
- **Read: Letter Sounds vs Letter Names: Which Should You Teach First?**
phonicsacademy.com/blog/letter-sounds-vs-letter-names

HEAR IT, FIND IT

Say the sound (not the letter name). Your child points to the letters. Tick first-try answers.

#	SAY / SHOW	CHOICES	ANSWER	
1	Say /d/	d, t, m	d	☐
2	Say /m/	m, d, n	m	☐
3	Say /n/	n, d, m	n	☐

WATCH FOR common mix-ups and what to do

Adds "uh" to the sound (duh).

-> Keep it short and clipped: whisper it. /d/, not duh. Extra "uh" makes blending harder.

Mixes up /d/ and /t/.

-> Same tongue tap behind your teeth — /d/ just adds a buzz from your voice box.

TOO HARD? MAKE IT EASIER

Only do the listening parts today: hear it, say it, find it in pictures. Save the writing for tomorrow.

TOO EASY? MAKE IT HARDER

Read these words and then write two of them from memory: dip, dim, dad, sad.

HOW DID IT GO?

MY CHILD CAN...

- ☐ Says /d/ when shown "d".
- ☐ Hears /d/ in a word you say (dog).
- ☐ Writes "d" starting in the right place.

Date: _____

Colour in the stars:



Notes: _____