



FREE PRINTABLE · WORKS WITH YOUR PHONICS MAGIC TILES

Warm-Up Words

36 warm-up words for five sessions and the Tile Swap Game

No laminating

Print one session at a time

Matches the tiles in the box



Not quite ready for blends and digraphs?

That is exactly what this pack is for. Five short sessions of simple words, built with the tiles and board you already own. When these feel easy, your child is ready to start the box.

Two minutes before **you start**

The one rule

For these games, say the **sounds** rather than the letter names. Point under each tile and say /k/ /a/ /t/, then slide and read **cat**. Blending sounds is the skill the whole box is built on.

1

Print

Print this session's two pages: one page of picture cards, one page of word cards.

2

Cut

Cut along the dashed lines, just outside each colored edge. Neat corners do not matter.

3

Build

Picture cards: your child finds the tiles and builds the word on the board.

4

Read

Word cards: your child reads the word, then builds it with tiles to check.

You do not have to be a teacher for this to work.

● Red sounds are vowels. ● Blue sounds are consonants. Exactly like the tiles in the box, so everything carries straight over.

Printing

Choose **100%** or **Actual size**, never Fit to page, so the cards come out at their real size. Plain paper works fine. Cardstock lasts longer. Each session is just two pages, so print only the session you are on.



From the box

The board and the letter tiles. Single letters only, no digraph tiles needed.



From the drawer

Scissors. That is the whole list. No laminator, no prep the night before.



From your day

Ten minutes, roughly. Stop while it is still fun, even mid-session.

Two little games, **one board**

Each session has six words. Picture cards first, then word cards. Ten minutes is plenty, then stop while it is still fun. Support is fine, and repeating a session is not going backwards – repeats are how it sticks.

Game 1 • Build what you see

Picture cards

1. Show one picture card. Say the word together:
dog.
2. Your child finds the tiles and builds it on the board.
3. Point under each tile and say the sounds: **/d/ /o/ /g/**.
4. Slide, blend, and read the word.

Game 2 • Read it, then check

Word cards

1. Show one word card.
2. Your child reads it. Sounding out slowly is fine.
3. They build it with tiles to check, sound by sound.
4. The dots under the word are a map: one dot, one sound.

	SOUNDS	WORDS	A GOOD SIGN TO LOOK FOR
Session 1	short a	cat bag hat man jam tap	They blend a short a word with no help on the sounds.
Session 2	short i	pig lip wig sit kid fin	They read pin , the bonus word they have not practiced, off the tiles. Bonus check: after the six, build pin with the tiles. It is not one of the practiced words, so reading it shows the sounds are transferring.
Session 3	short o	dog top log hot mop pod	They read two o words in a row without mixing up the middle sound.
Session 4	short u	sun bug cup tub gum nut	They read nut and tub without help.
Session 5	short e	bed hen net pen leg red	They read pen and net , even slowly. Slow and right beats fast.
Tile Swap	swap one tile	cat → cut → nut → net → wet → jet • sun → run → rub → rib	They can say which tile changed, and read the new word.

The parent script for each session, one phone screen each, lives at owl-village.com/start. Read it, put the phone down, play. The Tile Swap Game brings six new words; its chains also reuse cat, nut, net and sun from the sessions.



cat



bag



hat



man

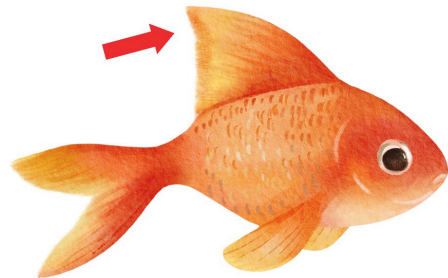


jam



tap





pig



lip



wig



sit



kid



fin





dog

• • •

top

• • •

log

• • •

hot

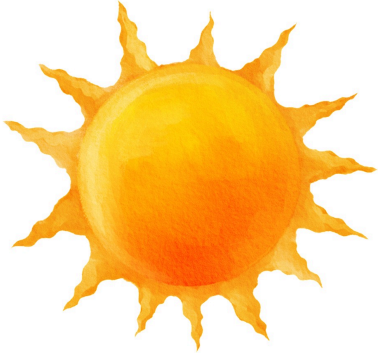
• • •

mop

• • •

pod

• • •



sun



bug



cup



tub

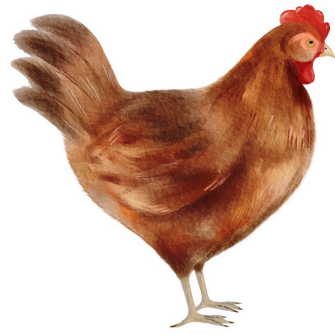


gum



nut





bed



hen



net



pen

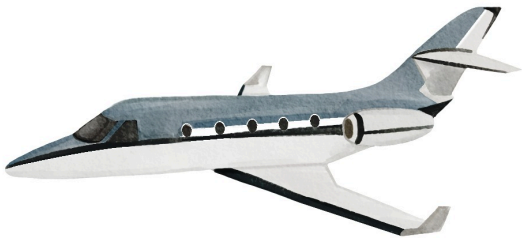
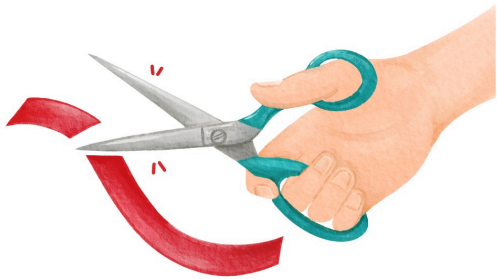


leg



red





cut



wet



jet



run



rub



rib



That was the whole warm-up

Color a ball in after each step



Session 1

short a



Session 2

short i



Session 3

short o



Session 4

short u



Session 5

short e

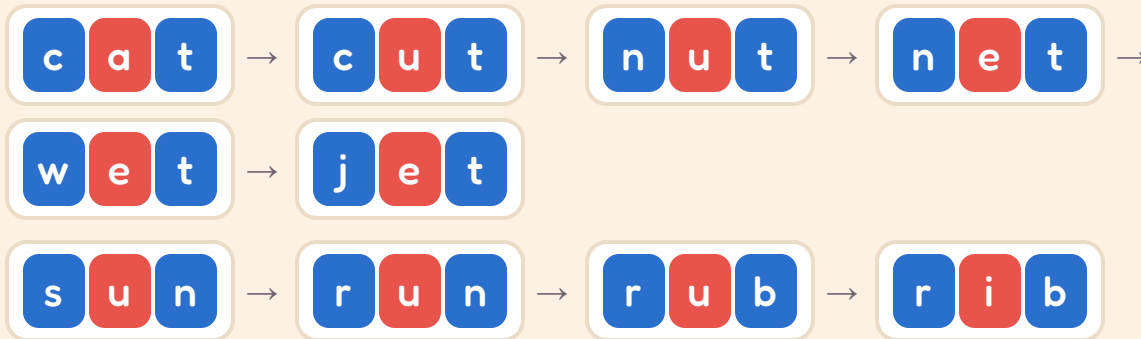


Tile Swap

the game

The Tile Swap chains, for the fridge

Build the first word, swap one tile at a time, read each new word. Red tiles are vowels, blue are consonants.



Ready when they are ready

A simple guide: when your child reads **pig**, **pan** and **sun** on their own, sounding out slowly absolutely counts, they are ready to start the first card set. pan is the interesting one - it is not in this pack, so it shows the sounds are transferring. Open the Phonics Magic booklet at **page 6**. And if it is not clicking yet, repeat a session or two - repeats are how it sticks.

Back to the box

The first card set is waiting. Keep the sessions short and keep the tiles doing the work.

[Phonics Magic · page 6](#)

Starting earlier?

If letter sounds are still brand new, begin one step back with our free 7-day starter, Owl Village First Words.

owl-village.com/start