

Word Lists for Teaching Kindergarten or Struggling 1st Grade Beginning Readers.

Regularly spelled words, usually taught by the end of first grade, that can be used to teach the “sounding out procedure” i.e. slow blending, on words with a **continuous** or **stop** sound beginning.

The chart below is based on Carnine’s* suggested teaching progression table 6.3 (Simple Regular Words—Listed According to Difficulty) on page 59, with some modifications. It includes words with long vowels that use marks on the vowels and reduces the size of the silent letters. Introducing the altered print with these words enables the use of a greater variety of reading vocabulary at the beginning and/or to pre-teach more difficult words with long vowels before they appear in a Core reading program.*

Word Type	Reason for Relative Difficulty/Ease	Examples	Notes
VC and CVC words that begin with a continuous sound	Words begin with a continuous sound are easier to slow blend	it, fan, at, Sam	VC and CVC are grouped together because there are few VC words.
VCC and CVCC words that begin with a continuous sound	Words are longer and end with a consonant blend or diagraph	and, land, end, fast	VCC and CVCC are grouped together because there are few VCC words.
VcE pattern words with continuous beginnings (mark long vowels and reduce size of silent e at first)	With the printed alterations they can be about as easy as CVC or CVCC words with continuous beginnings.	made, same, smile	Some CCVcE words with consonant blends or diagraphs can be inserted easily at some point.
VvC pattern words with continuous beginnings (mark long vowels and reduce size of silent vowel at first)	Same explanation as above.	main, meat, free	Same as above. Teach children to only read large print at first. Gradually fade out when they are ready.
CVC words that begin with a stop sound	Short words with a stop sound.	him, can, dot	Teach children how to slow blend with a fast sound at the start.
CVCC words that begin with a stop sound	Words begin with a stop sound and end with a consonant blend or diagraph.	hand, test	Some consonant diagraphs might be introduced early
VcE pattern words with a stop sound (mark long vowels and reduce size of silent e at first)	With the printed alterations they can be about as easy as CVC or CVCC words with a stop sound.	tape, came,	Same slow blending with a fast sound at the beginning can be applied with large letters at first.
VvC pattern words with a stop sound (mark long vowels and reduce size of silent vowel at first)	Same explanation as above.	Tail, coat, team	Same as above. Teach children to only read large print at first. Gradually fade out when they are ready.
CCVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC	Words are longer	Blend, clamp, spent, scrap, scrimp	Apply same skills.
Vowel patterns	New spellings	Oi, oy, ol, ow, all,	Apply same skills.

*For more extensive lists see: [Teaching Struggling and At-Risk Readers: A Direct Instruction Approach](#), by Carnine, Silbert, Kame’enui, Tarver, and Jungjohann (2006)

* Prepared by Charles Arthur, ArthurReadingWorkshop.com (2013)

Two-letter non-words and real words.	CVC words with a continuous sound at the beginning		CVCC, VCC words with a continuous sound at the beginning
mee	Sam	rod	and
ma	sat	ron	ant
ree	sad	sod	end
eer	rat	log	nest
see	ran	lot	lamp
sa	mat	mom	fast
ad	map	feed	land
ra	man	seem	last
eed	mad	need	mask
fa	lad	men	fill
if	fat	met	lick
id	fan	Ned	lift
ri	nap	Net	milk
am	fin	red	sick
no	fit	set	wind
on	mit	wet	luck
is	rid	fun	must
	rim	mud	rust
	sid	nut	felt
	sit		melt
	sip		mend

CVCC. VCC (cont.)	VCe pattern words with a continuous beginning	(pre-teaching of silent e words. Mark long vowels at first,)
self	made	snake
send	like	flame
sent	mile	slide
lock	ripe	smile
rock	note	note
sock	robe	froze
soft	nose	smoke
raft	rope	snore
sack	same	ore
sand	wave	more
went	save	sore
	make	shore
	ride	(north)
	side	
	fire	
	line	
	five	
	nine	
	rode	

VvC patterned words with a continuous beginning	(pre-teaching of long, double Vs. Mark the long vowels at first)	CVC words with a stop sound at the beginning	(teach "sounding out" with stop sounds at the beginning of words)
aid	lean	dan	kid
aim,	soap	tag	pin
main	load	tan	pig
rain	road	tap	cop
fair	east	tin	don
fear	eat	tip	dog
lead	sneak	tim	hot
meal	free	top	hop
meat	three	tom	job
neat	weed	bag	pot
sea		bat	pop
seal		can	ten
seat		cat	bed
		had	hen
		ham	ken
		has	pen
		hat	pet
		pan	pep
		pat	bug
		big	cup
		bit	cut
		dig	dug
		hid	hum
		him	hug
		his	pup
		hit	tub

CVCC, words with a stop sound at the beginning	VCe pattern words with a stop sound at the beginning	(pre-teaching of silent e words. Mark long vowels at first)	VvC patterned words with a stop beginning
damp	tape	hide	bait
band	hate	pine	tail
pant	pane	dive	pail
past	cape	bike	paid
golf	tame	home	pain
honk	take	hole	paint
pond	bake	bone	bead
belt	cane	cone	bean
bend	time	hose	beast
best	pile	poke	deal
dent	bite	joke	hear
held	kite	came	heal
kept	dime		heat
test			please
tent			treat
bump			beat
dump			speak
dust			bee
hunt			deer
jump			green

(pre-teaching of long, double Vs. Mark the long vowels at first)

keep

creek

peep

beetle

boast

coat

boat

toast

coal

Other Vowel Patterns			
<u>oi</u>	<u>or</u>	<u>all</u>	
oil	torn	fall	
coin	port	call	
point	corn	tall	
noise	born	ball	
spoil	short	wall	
voice		mall	
boy	<u>ow</u>	small	
toy	blow	<u>ar</u>	
	crow	arm	
<u>ol</u>	grow	farm	
old	low	far	
cold	row	art	
roll	slow	barn	
fold	show	hard	
hold	snow	car	
sold	throw	dark	
told	glow	star	

	Other Vowel Patterns (cont)	
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ay

day

may

say

play

oo

food

moon

room

soon

tooth

too

boot

cool

fool

ou

out

loud

found

round

sound

around

count

ground

pouch

cloud

mouse

mouth

our