

I.P.A. Home Reading Program

Alphabet Phonogram Word Cards

Infant through Preschool



Beginning Word Cards

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Words are printed in black, no color

These are the same words that are in the Alphabet Phonograms. Word cards are used to focus on the multiple phonograms in the entire word rather than the single phonogram. Show Beginning Word Cards as soon as you have gone through the Alphabet Phonograms.

Description of Word Cards

The word is shown on both sides for convenience. Little or no sorting is necessary.

How to Assemble Word Cards

Print word cards on index paper (card stock) or use card stock or poster board for backing if you print on standard weight paper. Match the words together and slip the pages, back-to-back, into a loose-leaf page protector.

Focusing on Words instead of Flashing

- Show the word card and say the word with precise pronunciation.
- Then say the word again more slowly, pronouncing the sound of each phoneme (letter sound) in a drawn-out, segmented manner while pointing to each letter as you articulate the phoneme.
- Then blend the sounds together again and say the word as you would speak it normally, using some emphasis.
- As you blend the phonemes, move your index finger under the word from left to right in the

same direction as the eyes would move in reading the word. (All in all, the word is spoken three times.)

Pointers

- Practice your presentation in front of a mirror until you are comfortable handling the cards.
- Show word cards when both you and the baby are feeling well and are in a good mood.
- Good lighting is essential.
- Eliminate noise and distractions before working with the child.
- Gain the child's consent to show the cards. (Pick a time when he's not doing something he enjoys and doesn't mind being interrupted.)

Presenting as Flashcards

- Tell the child that you have word flashcards.
- Hold the flashcards steady, at the child's level, where he can see clearly without straining. (For an infant this would be about 18".)
- Show ten flashcards. Take each flashcard from behind and bring it up to the front while pronouncing the word as you show the flashcard. (Or you may want to sit the child next to you on the couch and put the flashcards on your lap and hold up the top flashcard for the child to see. Some prefer to put flashcards in a loose-leaf binder and flip them over like a flip chart.)
- Presentations should be done quickly and smoothly.
- Leave some time between sessions.

Maintaining Interest

Keep in mind that the rule is to stop before the child loses interest, so the child will be eager to see the flashcards next time you show them. If it works better for you or the child to show fewer flashcards (or more) show the number that works best.

We hope you and your child enjoy this reading program. The gift of reading is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child. Early readers have all of the advantage in life, and it is never too soon (or too late) to begin to learn to read.

This reading program is brought to you by
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