

YOUR FREE READER'S COMPANION

The Phonics Practice Pack

A companion to Phonics Books for Kids Ages 5-8 · by Emily Carr

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By Emily Carr · bookcompanion.co

How to use this pack

This little pack turns the book into a routine your child can grow with. It has four printables:

1. A scope-and-sequence chart — the exact order of phonics rules the book teaches, so you always know what comes next.
2. Decodable word lists for every rule — read a few together before a story, and a few again after.
3. A sound-it-out routine card — the five simple steps for reading a word without guessing.
4. A reading progress chart — one box for each of the 40 stories, to color in as your child finishes them.

Print them once, keep them where the reading happens — the fridge, the reading nook, the kitchen table — and you're set. Nothing here needs an app, a login, or a screen.

The golden rule: read each story aloud together first, then hand the book over and let your child read it back to you. When they get stuck, don't give them the word — point to the letters and sound it out together. That small change is what turns listening into reading.

Phonics scope & sequence

This is the order the book follows, from the simplest sounds to longer words. Work through it in order — each rule builds on the one before.

Rule	What it does	Try these words
Short vowels	Each vowel makes one short sound	cat, red, sit, dog, sun
Consonant blends	Two consonants, blend both sounds	flag, stop, must, hand
Consonant digraphs	Two letters make one new sound	ship, chin, this, when
Silent E	An E at the end makes the vowel say its name	cake, bike, home, cute
Vowel teams	Two vowels working together, one sound	rain, seed, boat, day
Bossy R	The R changes the vowel before it	car, her, bird, corn, turn
The schwa	The lazy "uh" sound in a quiet syllable	sofa, zebra, panda
Syllable types	Break a long word into smaller chunks	rab-bit, sun-set, nap-kin

Tip: tape this chart to the fridge and put a small check next to each rule as your child grows comfortable with it.

Decodable word lists

Read a handful before each story to warm up, and the same handful after to celebrate the win. Point to each word and let your child sound it out.

Short vowels

cat, map, bad, red, pen, wet, sit, pig, win, dog, hop, mud, sun, bug, cup

Consonant blends

flag, clap, slip, stop, spin, must, hand, jump, tent, fast, best, lamp

Consonant digraphs

ship, shop, fish, chin, chop, rich, this, then, with, when, math, bath

Silent E

cake, bake, name, bike, ride, time, home, bone, note, cute, cube, tune

Vowel teams

rain, wait, day, play, seed, feet, need, boat, road, coat, moon, light

Bossy R

car, far, jar, her, fern, bird, girl, corn, fork, turn, burn, hurt

The schwa

sofa, zebra, banana, wagon, lemon, robin, seven, panda, salad

Longer words (break into syllables)

rab-bit, sun-set, nap-kin, mag-net, pic-nic, bas-ket, kit-ten, mit-ten

The sound-it-out routine

Cut this out and keep it near the book. Use it every time your child hits a word they don't know.

1. Touch each letter and say its sound, slowly. "sss... aaa... t."
2. Blend the sounds together, sliding them into one. "sss-aaa-t."
3. Say it fast, the way we really talk. "sat!"
4. Read the whole sentence again, now that the word clicks.
5. If it's tricky, sound — don't guess. Guessing from the picture is a habit we're gently replacing with real reading.

Read aloud together first. Then hand it over. Praise the effort of sounding out, not just the right answer — that's what keeps a young reader brave.

Reading progress chart

Color a box each time your child reads a story back to you. Forty stories, forty small wins.

Short vowels

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Consonant blends

☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9

Consonant digraphs

☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15

Silent E

☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20

Vowel teams

☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29 ☐ 30

Bossy R, the schwa and syllable types

☐ 31 ☐ 32 ☐ 33 ☐ 34 ☐ 35 ☐ 36 ☐ 37 ☐ 38 ☐ 39 ☐ 40

When the last box is colored, your child hasn't just finished a book — they've learned to read.

A note for grown-ups

You don't need to be a reading teacher to do this well. You just need to show up, keep it short, and keep it kind. Ten calm minutes a day beats an hour of frustration every time.

If a story feels hard, drop back a rule and read easier words until confidence returns. If it feels easy, move on — boredom is the enemy of a young reader too.

Thank you for reading with your child. It's the single best thing you can do for them, and you're already doing it.

— Emily