

New sound: j

38

Lesson 38 of 92 (ages 3-6) / 32 of 86 (age 7+) · Letter Sounds · Ages 3-7+ · about 10 min

GOAL

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

WHY IT MATTERS

Every letter sound is a building block. Once your child knows /j/, they can use it in every word it appears in: jam, jug, jet.

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 "l", "f", "b" on paper, point, and your child says each sound.

SAY

"What sound is this? And this one?"

2 min

Listen

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

SAY

"This is /j/. Watch my mouth: start like 'd', then release into a buzzing 'zh' — lips pushed forward."

2 min

Show how

Show the letter "j" and the action: Pretend to wobble like jelly on a plate and say j-j-j. Then tap the words on the lesson page.

SAY

"When I see j, I say /j/. jam: /j/ jam!"

2 min

Do it together

Sound hunt: find 3 things at home with /j/. Then do the trace-and-write part of the practice sheet. Read together: jam, jug, jet, jog, job, jig.

2 min

Play

Play the games on the lesson page: hear /j/ and tap its letters.

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-j
- **Printable: 44 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
- **The "j" sound — full page**
phonicsacademy.com/phonemes/j
- **Read: Phonemes List (Free PDF): 44 English Phonemes with Examples**
phonicsacademy.com/blog/43-english-phonemes-list
- **Game: Letter Trace**
phonicsacademy.com/play/letter-trace

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 /j/	j, l, f	j	☐
2	Say /l/	l, j, f	l	☐
3	Say /f/	f, j, l	f	☐

WATCH FOR common mix-ups and what to do

Adds "uh" to the sound (juh).

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

Mixes up /j/ and /ch/.

-> Same stop-then-hiss shape — /j/ 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: jam, jug, jet, jog, job, jig.

HOW DID IT GO?

MY CHILD CAN...

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

Date: _____

Colour in the stars:



Notes: _____