

New sound: oa

70

Lesson 70 of 92 (ages 3-6) / 64 of 86 (age 7+) · Vowel Teams & Tricky Words · Ages 3-7+ · about 10 min

GOAL

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

WHY IT MATTERS

"oa" is 2 letters that make ONE sound. Seeing them as one unit stops your child reading the letters separately, and unlocks words like boat, coat, road.

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 "igh", "ee", "ai" on paper, point, and your child says each sound.

SAY

"What sound is this? And this one?"

2 min

Listen

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

SAY

"This is /oa/. Watch my mouth: round mouth, long 'o'."

2 min

Show how

Show the letters "oa" and the action: Bring hand over mouth as if yawning saying oh-oh-oh. Then tap the words on the lesson page.

SAY

"When I see oa, I say /oa/. boat: /oa/ boat!"

"Two letters, one sound. They're best friends: they always stick together."

2 min

Do it together

Sound hunt: find 3 things at home with /oa/. Then do the trace-and-write part of the practice sheet. Read together: boat, coat, road, soap, goal, foam.

2 min

Play

Play the games on the lesson page: hear /oa/ 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)**
phonicademy.com/plan/session/sound-oa
- **Printable: Vowel Teams Worksheet — Long O (oa/ow) (Free PDF)**
phonicademy.com/printables/vowel-teams-worksheet-long-o
- **Read: Vowel Teams List (Free PDF): ai, ay, ea, ee, oa, oo**
phonicademy.com/blog/vowel-teams-list
- **The “oa” sound — full page**
phonicademy.com/phonemes/oa
- **Printable: Vowel Sounds Chart (Free PDF)**
phonicademy.com/printables/abc-phonics-vowel-sounds-chart
- **Read: 20 Vowel Sounds Chart (Free PDF) with Examples**
phonicademy.com/blog/vowel-sounds-chart

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 /oa/	oa, o, igh	oa	☐
2	Say /igh/	igh, oa, ee	igh	☐
3	Say /ee/	ee, e, oa	ee	☐

WATCH FOR common mix-ups and what to do

- | | |
|--|---|
| Says the sound too quickly to hear. | -> /oa/ can be stretched: hold it like a long note, oaoaoaoa, then let go. |
| Reads the letters one by one (o-a). | -> Put one finger under both letters at once: "these two make one sound". |
| Mixes up /oa/ and /ol/. | -> Different mouth shapes — "o" is a big open "ah" with no lip rounding; "oa" rounds the lips and glides to "oo". |

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: boat, coat, road, soap, goal, foam.

HOW DID IT GO?

MY CHILD CAN...

- ☐ Says /oa/ when shown "oa".
- ☐ Hears /oa/ in a word you say (boat).
- ☐ Writes "oa" as one sound unit.

Date: _____

Colour in the stars:



Notes: _____