

# New sound: r

29

Lesson 29 of 92 (ages 3-6) / 23 of 86 (age 7+) · Letter Sounds · Ages 3-7+ · about 10 min

**GOAL**

**Your child can say /r/ when they see "r", and hear it in words like run.**

**WHY IT MATTERS**

Every letter sound is a building block. Once your child knows /r/, they can use it in every word it appears in: run, red, rug.

**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 "u", "e", "k" on paper, point, and your child says each sound.

SAY | *"What sound is this? And this one?"*

2 min

**Listen**

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

SAY | *"This is /r/. Watch my mouth: tongue curls back, voice it."*

2 min

**Show how**

Show the letter "r" and the action: Pretend to be a dog with a bone and say rrrr. Then tap the words on the lesson page.

SAY | *"When I see r, I say /r/. run: /r/ run!"*

2 min

**Do it together**

Sound hunt: find 3 things at home with /r/. Then do the trace-and-write part of the practice sheet. Read together: run, red, rug, rat, rip, rim.

2 min

**Play**

Play the games on the lesson page: hear /r/ 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)**  
[phonicaademy.com/plan/session/sound-r](https://phonicaademy.com/plan/session/sound-r)
- **Printable: 44 Letter Sound Flashcards (PDF)**  
[phonicaademy.com/printables/abc-phonics-flashcards-43](https://phonicaademy.com/printables/abc-phonics-flashcards-43)
- **Read: Letter Sounds vs Letter Names: Which Should You Teach First?**  
[phonicaademy.com/blog/letter-sounds-vs-letter-names](https://phonicaademy.com/blog/letter-sounds-vs-letter-names)
- **The "r" sound — full page**  
[phonicaademy.com/phonemes/r](https://phonicaademy.com/phonemes/r)
- **Read: Phonemes List (Free PDF): 44 English Phonemes with Examples**  
[phonicaademy.com/blog/43-english-phonemes-list](https://phonicaademy.com/blog/43-english-phonemes-list)
- **Game: Letter Trace**  
[phonicaademy.com/play/letter-trace](https://phonicaademy.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 /r/    | r, u, e | <b>r</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Say /u/    | u, r, e | <b>u</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Say /e/    | e, r, u | <b>e</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## WATCH FOR common mix-ups and what to do

**Says the sound too quickly to hear.** -> /r/ can be stretched: hold it like a long note, rrrr, then let go.

**Forgets the sound the next day.** -> Normal! Repeat the action and the keyword daily for a week: the action is the memory hook.

### 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: run, red, rug, rat, rip, rim.

## HOW DID IT GO?

### MY CHILD CAN...

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Colour in the stars:



Notes: \_\_\_\_\_