

New sound: th

57

Lesson 57 of 92 (ages 3-6) / 51 of 86 (age 7+) · Digraphs & Blends · Ages 3-7+ · about 10 min

GOAL

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

WHY IT MATTERS

"th" is 2 letters that make ONE sound. Seeing them as one unit stops your child reading the letters separately, and unlocks words like thin, bath, path.

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 "sh", "ch", "qu" on paper, point, and your child says each sound.

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

2 min

Listen

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

SAY | *"This is /th/. Watch my mouth: tongue between teeth, blow."*

2 min

Show how

Show the letters "th" and the action: Pretend to be naughty and stick out tongue saying th-th-th. Then tap the words on the lesson page.

SAY | *"When I see th, I say /th/. thin: /th/ thin!"*
"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 /th/. Then do the trace-and-write part of the practice sheet. Read together: thin, math, moth, cloth, thick, throb.

2 min

Play

Play the games on the lesson page: hear /th/ and tap its letters, then find where the sound is in a word.

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-th](https://www.phonicsacademy.com/plan/session/sound-th)
- **Printable: Digraphs Worksheet — TH (Free PDF)**
[phonicsacademy.com/printables/digraphs-worksheet-th](https://www.phonicsacademy.com/printables/digraphs-worksheet-th)
- **Read: Digraphs List (Free PDF): ch, sh, th, ph, wh, ng**
[phonicsacademy.com/blog/digraphs-ch-sh-th](https://www.phonicsacademy.com/blog/digraphs-ch-sh-th)
- **The “th” sound — full page**
[phonicsacademy.com/phonemes/th](https://www.phonicsacademy.com/phonemes/th)
- **Printable: Digraphs Cheat Sheet (PDF)**
[phonicsacademy.com/printables/abc-phonics-digraphs](https://www.phonicsacademy.com/printables/abc-phonics-digraphs)
- **Read: Consonant Blends: Full List, How to Teach Them + Free PDF**
[phonicsacademy.com/blog/consonant-blends-list](https://www.phonicsacademy.com/blog/consonant-blends-list)

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 /th/ (as in thin)	th, sh, ch	th	☐
2	Say /sh/	sh, th, ch	sh	☐
3	Say /ch/	ch, j, th	ch	☐

WATCH FOR common mix-ups and what to do

- | | |
|--|---|
| Says the sound too quickly to hear. | -> /th/ can be stretched: hold it like a long note, thththth, then let go. |
| Reads the letters one by one (t-h). | -> Put one finger under both letters at once: "these two make one sound". |
| Mixes up /th/ and /t/. | -> Same tongue between the teeth — the th in "this" 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: thin, math, moth, cloth, thick, throb.

HOW DID IT GO?

MY CHILD CAN...

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

Date: _____

Colour in the stars:



Notes: _____