ESL Phonics Progress Log

A standard phonics test can under-measure an ESL learner by mixing decoding with vocabulary. This log from the esl-phonics-assessment guide keeps the two scores separate over time.

Name: _____ Date: _____

How to use this worksheet

1. Test decoding with pseudo-words first (made-up but pronounceable, e.g. "vop") — score out of 10.
2. Then test the same patterns with real words, separately — score out of 10.
3. Note whether there's a gap between the two scores — a big gap usually points to vocabulary, not phonics.
4. Tally self-corrections during a short reading sample: a child who catches and fixes their own mistake is demonstrating solid blending, even if the raw accuracy score looks lower.

Tip

Reassess every 6-8 weeks, not more often — frequent enough to catch a real stall, spaced out enough to avoid over-reacting to normal day-to-day variation.

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One row every 6-8 weeks — not more often than that.

Date	Pseudo-word score (out of 10)	Real-word score (out of 10)	Gap?	Self-corrections	Notes