



Phonics Classroom Activity

Decodable Readers—Set 3

Overview

This third set of decodable readers builds on foundational consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) and long vowel patterns by introducing digraphs and vowel teams. Students will practice decoding words that contain two letters that are working together to make a single sound. These patterns appear frequently in early readers and help students read with greater accuracy and confidence.

Why This Set Matters

Mastering digraphs and vowel teams is a critical next step after CVC and silent E words. These patterns allow students to decode a broader range of words and improve their fluency in connected text. This set provides scaffolded opportunities to explore and apply these patterns in the context of short, engaging stories.

Focus: Consonant Digraphs and Vowel Teams/Diphthongs

Target Letters and Patterns:
sh, ch, th, wh, ph; ai, ee, oa, ea, ou, ow, oi, oy

Grade Range: K–2

Goal: Strengthen decoding and fluency skills by introducing more advanced phonics patterns in short, connected texts.

Materials Needed

- Printed decodable reader
- Pencils or crayons
- Optional: highlighters, sticky notes, or sound boxes

Instructions

1. **Introduce the Focus Pattern(s):** Review the sound each pattern makes and read a few sample words together.
2. **Model a First Read:** Use choral or echo reading. Emphasize blending and rereading for fluency.
3. **Independent or Take-Home Reading:** Allow students time to reread on their own or with a caregiver.

4. **Optional Response Activity:** Ask students to draw or circle words that match the pattern, or act out a sentence.

Tips for Differentiation

- Introduce patterns in isolation before blending them into connected text.
- Use visual aids or sound cards to support retention.
- Highlight or color-code digraphs or vowel teams in the text.
- Allow students to write or illustrate their own sentence using the target pattern.

Wrap-Up Questions

- What two letters worked together to make one sound?
- Did you find any parts tricky to read? How did you figure them out?
- Can you think of another word that uses this pattern?

Each foldable reader includes four lines of connected, decodable text. The first three readers focus on consonant digraphs. The final three readers introduce vowel teams and diphthongs.

Reader 1: The Fish Pond

Focus pattern: sh, ch

Examples: fish, pond, dash, chips

I see a fish in the pond.
The fish can dash and splash.
I sit and munch on chips.
The fish swims past the rock.

Reader 4: Gail in the Rain

Focus pattern: ai, oa

Examples: rain, road, sail, coat

Gail is in the rain.
She has a red raincoat.
She runs down the road.
She sails a boat in the rain.

Reader 2: The Thin Path

Focus pattern: th, wh

Examples: thin, path, with, that, whip

I walk on the thin path.
I go with my pal, Whit.
That path is full of bumps.
We whip past a log.

Reader 5: A Green Leaf

Focus pattern: ee, ea

Examples: green, leaf, tree, eat

I see a green leaf.
It fell from the tree.
A bee sits on the leaf.
I eat lunch by the tree.

Reader 3: Phil and the Photo

Focus pattern: ph, ch

Examples: Phil, photo, chip, phone

Phil had a phone.
He took a photo of lunch.
His lunch was a big chip.
He sent it to his pal.

Reader 6: Roy and the Toy

Focus pattern: oi, oy, ou, ow

Examples: Roy, toy, loud, cow, shout

Roy has a fun toy.
The toy can shout out loud.
A cow runs past Roy.
Roy says, "Wow, what a day!"

I sit and munch
on chips.
The fish swims past
the rock.

I see a fish in the pond.
The fish can dash
and splash.

Examples

fish

pond

dash

chips



The Fish Pond

I go with my pal, Whit.
I walk on the thin path.

That path is full of
bumps.
We whip past a log.

Examples

thin

path

with

that

whip



The Thin Path

Phil and the Photo



Phil had a phone.
He took a photo
of lunch.

His lunch was a
big chip.

He sent it to his pal.

Examples

Phil

photo

chip

phone

Examples

rain

road

sail

coat

She runs down
the road.
She sails a boat in
the rain.

Gail is in the rain.
She has a red raincoat.



Gail in the Rain

I see a green leaf.
It fell from the tree.

A bee sits on the leaf.
I eat lunch by
the tree.

Examples

green

leaf

tree

eat



A Green Leaf

Roy has a fun toy.
The toy can shout
out loud.

A cow runs past Roy.
Roy says, "Wow, what
a day!"

Examples

Roy

toy

loud

cow

shout



Roy and the Toy