

## Phonics Classroom Activity

# Decodable Readers

## Overview

This set of printable decodable readers is designed to support students in the earliest stages of phonics instruction. The readers follow a research-based sequence that introduces high-utility and mid-frequency consonants alongside short vowels. Students will encounter CVC words they can decode independently, supported by simple sentence structure, repetition, and engaging illustrations.

## Why This Set Matters

With just the first few letters—m, a, s, p, t—students can begin forming words like “map”, “mat”, and “sat.” This collection expands that foundation with additional consonants and vowels to build broader decoding power and sentence-level fluency. This is a critical phase in the phonics journey, where readers begin applying sound-symbol relationships to real text in a supportive, success-oriented format.

**Focus:** High-Utility and Mid-Frequency Consonants + Short Vowels

**Target Letters:** m, a, s, p, t, i, n, b, c, o, f, h, d, r, g, e, l, k

**Grade Range:** PreK-1

**Goal:** Help early readers build decoding fluency and confidence using foldable decodable readers featuring simple consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) word patterns and common consonant-vowel sounds.

## Materials Needed

- Printed decodable reader
- Pencils or crayons
- Optional: highlighters, sticky notes, or reading trackers

## Instructions

- 1. Introduce the Focus Sounds:** Before reading, review the target sound-spellings that appear in the book. Highlight a few example words together.
- 2. Model a First Read:** Read the first page aloud or use echo reading. Support students as they decode CVC words and use picture clues.

3. **Independent or Take-Home Reading:** Students reread the book on their own or with a caregiver. Encourage repeated reading across several days to build fluency.
4. **Optional Response Activity:** Use included prompts to extend comprehension: draw your favorite part, write a CVC word from the story, or complete a sentence frame.

## Tips for Differentiation

- Use letter tiles or sound boxes to build focus words before reading.
- Highlight familiar high-frequency words (e.g., the, is, a) to support flow.
- Provide sentence frames or picture cues for retelling.
- For students who are ready for more of a challenge, use a blank mini-book to create their own version using the same letter set.

## Wrap-Up Questions

- What words in the book could you sound out?
- Did you find any words that started or ended with our focus letters?
- How did reading it more than once help you?

Each foldable reader uses CVC words built from the target sequence and includes simple illustrations and sentence repetition.

## Reader 1: Sam and the Bag

**Focus sounds:** m, a, s, t, p, b

**CVC examples:** mat, sat, tap, bag, map

Sam has a bag.

The bag is on the mat.

Sam taps the bag.

A map is in the bag.

## Reader 2: Hot Dog

**Focus sounds:** h, o, d, g, r

**CVC examples:** dog, hop, got, had, rod

The dog is hot.

The dog got up.

Dad got a fan.

The dog had a nap.

## Reader 3: The Big Cat

**Focus sounds:** c, a, t, m, b

**CVC examples:** cat, mat, nap, pat

The cat is big.

The cat is on the mat.

The cat had a nap.

Sam pats the cat.

## Reader 4: Pam Can Hop

**Focus sounds:** p, a, m, h, o

**CVC examples:** Pam, hop, mat, box, Mom

Pam can hop.

Pam hops on a mat.

Pam hops in a big box.

Pam hops to Mom.

## Reader 5: Dad and the Cap

**Focus sounds:** h, o, d, g, r

**CVC examples:** Dad, cap, red, peg, bed

Dad has a cap.

The cap is red.

Dad sets it on a peg.

Dad naps on the bed.

## Reader 5: Ben Gets a Pet

**Focus sounds:** b, e, n, g, t, s

**CVC examples:** Ben, net, pet, bug, set

Ben has a net.

Ben gets a pet.

The pet is a bug.

Ben sets the bug free.

The bag is on the mat.

Sam has a bag.

A map is in the bag.

Sam taps the bag.

## CVC Words

mat

sat

tap

bag

map



# Sam and the Bag

## CVC Words

dog

hop

got

had

rod

The dog had a nap.

Dad got a fan.

The dog got up.

The dog is hot.



# Hot Dog

The cat is on the mat.

The cat is big.

The cat had a nap.  
Sam pats the cat.

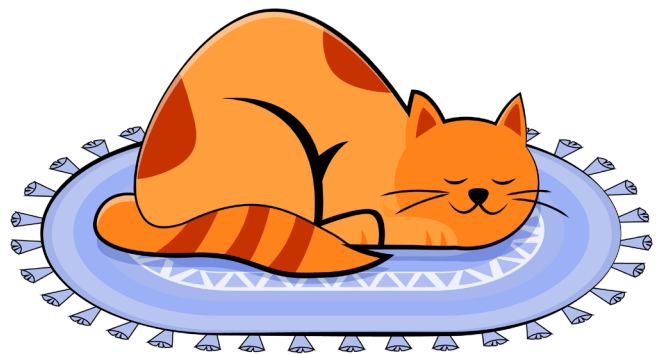
## CVC Words

cat

mat

nap

pat



# The Big Cat

Pam hops on a mat.

Pam can hop.

Pam hops to Mom.

Pam hops in a big box.

## CVC Words

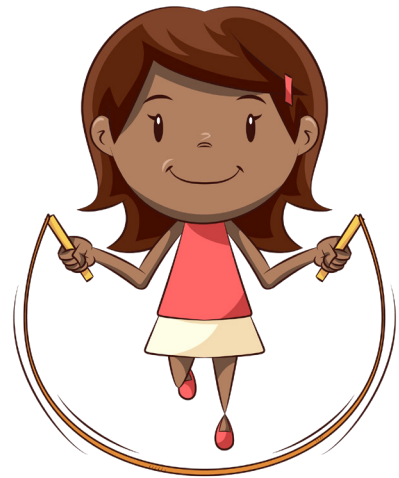
Pam

hop

mat

box

Mom



# Pam Can Hop

Dad sets it on a peg.  
Dad naps on the bed.

Dad has a cap.  
The cap is red.

## CVC Words

Dad

cap

red

peg

bed



## Dad and the Cap



Ben gets a pet.

Ben has a net.

Ben sets the bug free.

The pet is a bug.

## CVC Words

Ben

net

pet

bug

set



# Ben Gets a Pet