

All Aboard USA Kindergarten Decodable Book Progression



GPCs	Sight Words	Step	Book 1	Book 2	Symbol
<s> - /s/					
<a> - /a/					
<t> - /t/					
<p> - /p/					
<i> - /i/	a				
<n> - /n/	the	Step 1	Tap	The Ant	
<m> - /m/	and				
<d> - /d/	is	Step 2	Sid Sat	Nip Nip Nip	
<o> - /o/	I				
<g> - /g/	go	Step 3	A Map	Pim and Sam Nap	
<c> - /k/	to				
<k> <ck> - /k/	we	Step 4	Dad Packs a Sack	Nat Can	
<e> - /e/	like				
<h> - /h/	he	Step 5	Top Dog	Sit and Tip	
<u> - /u/	you				
<r> - /r/	she	Step 6	Mud on a Rug	The Pig Pen	
 - /b/	see				
<f> - /f/	was	Step 7	Bess is Hot	Pig Has Gas	
<l> - /l/	no				
<w> - /w/	with	Step 8	Cat Fun	Tess is a Mess	
<j> - /j/	for				
<v> - /v/	has	Step 9	Jill and Val	Jim and the Big Sack	
<x> - /x/	are				
<y> - /y/	have	Step 10	Nat's Pets	Go Dogs!	
<z> - /z/	said				
<qu> - /qu/	me	Step 11	Bad Dog Ben	Pim Gets a Jacket	
<a_e> - /ai/	this	Step 12	Wicked Will	Jane Runs Just for Fun	
<i_e> - /igh/	they	Step 13	Liz and the Kite	A Rocket in a Pocket	
<o_e> - /oa/	what	Step 14	Jim and the Big Rats	Puck and Pan	
<u_e> - /oo/	my	Step 15	The Bed Frog	Nat and June	
<e_e> - /ee/	of	Step 16	Pete's Game	Bank Job	

About Our Books

Most books that are sold as decodable actually have a lot of tricky words in them for a learner. Each All Aboard book is fully decodable once the child has been introduced to the graphemes and phonemes listed on the front. This allows them to build their confidence faster and avoids pushing them towards whole word sight reading strategies.

As they progress through the sequence of books, you will find that the challenge of each book rises gently with more words per page and some longer words, but only ever with words that they can read as a result of the teaching you have done in the classroom at that stage.

How to use our decodable books

You will see that the books begin a few weeks into the school year when enough phonemes have been learned to form words. If your phonics progression does not exactly match ours (it will be fairly similar), just introduce each new book step when you have covered those new graphemes and phonemes.

On the back cover, you will find which step each book corresponds to, which is also represented by a symbol for the children to help you organize the books. We do not have clear indicators of which level the book belongs to on the front cover. This is deliberate. From our experience, children become self-conscious with leveled book bands, and may compare themselves to classmates unhelpfully.

On the back cover you will also find a blurb. This is a great discussion point for the parent or teacher. This text is not decodable; it is for the adult to read to the child.

Before starting each book, we recommend looking at the focus page. Each new grapheme-phoneme-correspondence (GPC) in that step is listed here, plus any new sight words used in the book. Revise them before starting the book, with the child giving you the sound for each letter or reading the sight word.

Blending tips

Blending is the process of saying the individual phonemes in a word and then running them together to make the word. It is a vital skill for reading. Although it can be difficult for some children at first, with targeted practice it will improve. If a child finds it hard, we recommend that they practice by segmenting a word into its sounds and then reblending those sounds to form the word. Five of those each day will do the trick quite nicely!

One top tip we recommend is to be very precise about making *just* the sound of the letter, not adding a schwa vowel, like saying "kuh" for the hard c, for example. The /k/ sound is really just a little pop at the back of the mouth, without an "uh" sound after it. This will make blending a word vastly easier!

About All Aboard Phonics

These books are part of the All Aboard Phonics program, which includes lesson plans for every day of Kindergarten and Grade 1. It also has a unique intervention program called All Aboard Phonics Plus, which identifies the cause of difficulty for a child and helps you implement a suitable intervention for that individual child. The books and intervention system are available now. The full set of lesson plans for the USA will be available in 2023.