

# Phonics

The English language has 44 sounds. These sounds are the basis of phonics instructions. Once you know them, you can teach them to your child to help with reading instruction.

## 44 Sounds of the English Language

5 Short-Vowel Sounds	18 Consonant Sounds	7 Digraphs
short /ă/ in <u>a</u> pple short /ĕ/ in <u>e</u> lephant short /ĭ/ in <u>i</u> gloo short /ŏ/ in <u>o</u> ctopus short /ŭ/ in <u>u</u> mbrella	/b/ in <u>b</u> at /k/ in <u>c</u> at and <u>k</u> ite /d/ in <u>d</u> og /f/ in <u>f</u> an /g/ in <u>g</u> oat /h/ in <u>h</u> at /j/ in <u>j</u> am /l/ in <u>l</u> ip /m/ in <u>m</u> ap /n/ in <u>n</u> est /p/ in <u>p</u> ig /r/ in <u>r</u> at /s/ in <u>s</u> un /t/ in <u>t</u> op /v/ in <u>v</u> an /w/ in <u>w</u> ig /y/ in <u>y</u> ell /z/ in <u>z</u> ip	/ch/ in <u>ch</u> in /sh/ in <u>sh</u> ip unvoiced /th/ in <u>th</u> in voiced /th/ in <u>th</u> is /hw/ in <u>wh</u> ip * /ng/ in <u>ng</u> /nk/ in <u>nk</u>  * (wh is pronounced /w/ in some areas)
6 Long-Vowel Sounds	3 r-Controlled Vowel Sounds	Diphthongs and Other Special Sounds
long /ā/ in <u>a</u> ke long /ē/ in <u>e</u> et long /ī/ in <u>i</u> e long /ō/ in <u>o</u> at long /ū/ (yoo) in <u>u</u> e long /ōō/ in <u>o</u> ew	/ur/ in <u>u</u> rn, <u>u</u> rn, and <u>u</u> rn /ar/ in <u>a</u> rk /or/ in <u>o</u> rk	/oi/ in <u>oi</u> l and <u>oi</u> y /ow/ in <u>ow</u> l and <u>ow</u> ch short /öö/ in <u>oo</u> k and <u>oo</u> ll /aw/ in <u>aw</u> and <u>aw</u> l /zh/ in <u>zh</u> ion

