

# Phoneme Practice Activities for Para-Educators

Looking for more practice with phonemes?  
This practice packet includes six activities to exercise your knowledge:

1. Phoneme Awareness Warm Up
2. Phoneme Matching
3. Count the Phonemes
4. Identify the Phonemes
5. Isolate the Phonemes
6. Segment the Phonemes

## 2. Phoneme Matching

Read the first word in the left column of each line out loud and isolate the sound represented by the underlined letter(s). Then circle the word or words in the line that contain the same sound.

1. <u>h</u> ook	food	cloud	foot	sugar
2. <u>l</u> augh	faun	train	sauce	grand
3. <u>mi</u> ss	does	nose	box	close
4. <u>c</u> age	gym	game	gnat	hang
5. <u>th</u> ink	blunt	sling	drink	hang

As you practice, say the sounds out loud and use strategies like finger tapping to count and recognize the phonemes. If possible, work with a partner so you can help each other!

## Terms to Know:

- **Phonemes** are the individual sounds that we can blend together to make words. When we write phonemes, we write the letter used to represent the sound with slash marks on either side. For example, /s/ is the first sound in the word sat.
- **Phoneme awareness** is the knowledge of sounds and the ways we can manipulate them to make words — like segmenting a whole word into its individual phonemes. For example, the word top can be segmented into three phonemes, /t/, /o/, and /p/.

## Answer Keys:

1. **Phoneme Awareness Warm-Up:** 1. b, 2. a, 3. a, 4. a, 5. a, 6. b
2. **Phoneme Matching:** 1. foot, sugar; 2. grand; 3. box, close; 4. gym; 5. sling, drink, hang.
3. **Count the Phonemes:** 1. loose; 3; 2. knight; 3; 3. high, 2; 3. pitcher, 4; 5. fir, 2; 6. pay, 2; 7. torch, 3; 8. strong, 5; 9. oil, 2; 10. wheat, 3; 11. vision, 5; 12. cream, 4
4. **Identify the Phonemes:** 1. shoes /z/, 2. square /w/, 3. notched /ch/, 4. night /t/, 5. vision /zh/, 6. sing /ng/, 7. odor /r/, 8. walk /k/
5. **Isolate the Phonemes:** examples may include 1. big, image, mitt; 2. mop, otter, cough; 3. eat, receive, beet; 4. oil, toy, coin; 5. fur, under, dirt
6. **Segment the Phonemes:** 1. growth 4 phonemes /g/, /r/, /oe/, /th/; 2. axe 3 phonemes /a/, /k/, /s/; 3. pitch 3 phonemes /p/, /i/, /ch/; 4. brook 4 phonemes /b/, /r/, /oo/, /k/; 5. swish 4 phonemes /s/, /w/, /i/, /sh/; 6. touch 3 phonemes /t/, /u/, /ch/; 7. drum 4 phonemes /d/, /r/, /u/, /m/; 8. chalk 3 phonemes /ch/, /o/, /k/

## 1. Phoneme Awareness Warm-Up

1. What is the first sound in the word star?
  - A. /st/
  - B. /s/
  - C. /r/
2. What is the last sound in the word trumpet?
  - A. /t/
  - B. /et/
  - C. /tr/
3. What is the middle sound in the word wave?
  - A. /ae/
  - B. /av/
  - C. /v/
4. What is the last sound in the word book?
  - A. /k/
  - B. /ook/
  - C. /c/
5. What word is made when blending the sounds: /t/ /ā/ /b/ /l/?
  - A. table
  - B. teble
  - C. taebL
6. What word is made when blending the sounds: /p/ /ā/ /p/ /er/?
  - A. paepr
  - B. paper
  - C. pepper

## 2. Phoneme Matching

Read the first word in the left column of each line out loud and isolate the sound represented by the underlined letter(s). Then circle the word or words in the line that contain the same sound.

1. <b>hook</b>	food	cloud	foot	sugar
2. <b>laugh</b>	faun	train	sauce	grand
3. <b>miss</b>	does	nose	box	close
4. <b>cage</b>	gym	game	gnat	hang
5. <b>think</b>	blunt	sling	drink	hang

### 3. Count the Phonemes

Count the number of phonemes in the following words

- |            |       |            |       |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1. loose   | _____ | 2. knight  | _____ |
| 3. high    | _____ | 4. pitcher | _____ |
| 5. fir     | _____ | 6. pay     | _____ |
| 7. torch   | _____ | 8. strong  | _____ |
| 9. oil     | _____ | 10. wheat  | _____ |
| 11. vision | _____ | 12. cream  | _____ |

### 4. Identify the Phonemes

Identify the **third** phoneme in the following words:

- |            |       |           |       |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 1. shoes   | _____ | 2. square | _____ |
| 3. night   | _____ | 4. vision | _____ |
| 5. odor    | _____ | 6. walk   | _____ |
| 7. notched | _____ | 8. sing   | _____ |

### 5. Isolate the Phonemes

Think of three additional words that have the same sound as the underlined letter(s) in each word.

1. <u>i</u> ch	
2. th <u>ou</u> ght	
3. tr <u>ee</u>	
4. b <u>oy</u>	
5. b <u>ir</u> d	

### 6. Segment the Phonemes

Segment and count the phonemes for each of the following words. Place a penny or other marker in each of the squares to represent each sound in the word. Record the number of sounds.

1. growth				
2. axe				
3. pitch				
4. brook				
5. swish				
6. touch				
7. drum				
8. chalk				