

Dyslexia Steps · Free dyslexia worksheets

b and d at the start of a word

6 pages · answer key on the last page

Name: _____ Date: _____

For the grown-up: do one page a day, about 5 to 10 minutes. Mixing up b and d is common in all beginning readers. These pages link each letter to its sound: say the sound every time your child writes the letter. Answers are on the last page.

1 Trace and say

Trace each word with your finger, then with a pencil. Say the sound as you write the first letter. Then write the word on the line.

b d

Tip: For b, start at the top: a tall line down, then the round part. For d, start with the round part, then the tall line. Say the sound as you write: /b/ as in bat, /d/ as in dog.

bat	_____	dad	_____
bed	_____	den	_____
big	_____	dig	_____
bug	_____	dog	_____

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Name: _____

2 Listen: b or d?

Listen to the word. Write b or d in the gap. Then read the word.

For the grown-up: Read each word from the answer key out loud, once or twice. Your child writes the letter for the sound they hear. Say the sound clearly, do not show your mouth shape for b or d.

1. ____ug
   read it: _____

2. ____ig
   read it: _____

3. ____ad
   read it: _____

4. ____en
   read it: _____

5. ____ot
   read it: _____

6. ____ip
   read it: _____

7. ____us
   read it: _____

8. ____ag
   read it: _____

9. ____og
   read it: _____

10. ____in
    read it: _____

11. ____ed
    read it: _____

12. ____ug
    read it: _____

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Name: _____

3 Find and circle

Read the word in the box. Find the same word in its row and circle it. Look at every letter: some words are tricky twins.

bed	ded	bed	deb	beb
dig	big	pig	dig	qig
bud	dud	bub	pud	bud
dad	dad	bab	dab	bad
bad	dab	bab	dad	bad
dog	bog	dog	pog	gob
bib	did	dib	bib	bid
den	ben	pen	ned	den

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Name: _____

4 Word sort

Read each word in the box. Write it under b or under d, by the first sound.

dig bat dot bus bed dam bun
den big dug bag dip bin dog
bug dad

Starts with b	Starts with d

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Name: _____

5 Read the sentences

Read each sentence out loud. Underline every word that has a b or a d. Tick the box when you can read the sentence smoothly.

1. The big dog dug in the mud. ☐
2. Dad has a red bag. ☐
3. A bug is on the bed. ☐
4. Deb and Ben sat on the bus. ☐
5. The dog bit a bun. ☐
6. Did Dad get the bat? ☐

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Answer key

For the grown-up. Check together and keep it light: a mistake shows what to practise next.

2. Listen: b or d?: say these words

1. **bug**
2. **dig**
3. **bad**
4. **den**
5. **dot**
6. **dip**
7. **bus**
8. **bag**
9. **dog**
10. **bin**
11. **bed**
12. **dug**

3. Find and circle

1. bed (2nd in the row)
2. dig (3rd in the row)
3. bud (4th in the row)
4. dad (1st in the row)
5. bad (4th in the row)
6. dog (2nd in the row)
7. bib (3rd in the row)
8. den (4th in the row)

4. Word sort

Starts with b: bat, bag, bed, big, bin, bug, bus, bun
Starts with d: dad, dam, den, dig, dip, dog, dot, dug

5. Underlined words

1. big, dog, dug, mud
2. Dad, red, bag
3. bug, bed
4. Deb, and, Ben, bus
5. dog, bit, bun
6. Did, Dad, bat

Next step: words that were hard today go on tomorrow's practice. When the whole pack feels easy, choose the next pack at dyslexiasteps.com/dyslexia-worksheets.

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