

Dyslexia Steps Free printable worksheets

En family words worksheets

6 pages · 26 words on the full list · answer key on the last page

Name: _____ Date: _____

For the grown-up: do one page a day, about 5 to 10 minutes. Read each instruction aloud, then let your child do the work. Praise careful tries, not speed. Scan the code at the bottom to hear every word and play the free listening game. Answers are on page 6.

1 Read and re-read

Read each word. Say the sounds, then the whole word. Tick a box each time you read it.

	1	2	3		1	2	3
den	☐	☐	☐	mitten	☐	☐	☐
then	☐	☐	☐	pens	☐	☐	☐
pigpen	☐	☐	☐	men	☐	☐	☐
kitten	☐	☐	☐	glen	☐	☐	☐
hens	☐	☐	☐	seven	☐	☐	☐
hen	☐	☐	☐	dens	☐	☐	☐
when	☐	☐	☐	pen	☐	☐	☐
playpen	☐	☐	☐	wren	☐	☐	☐

Tip: read the list on three different days. By the third tick, most words should come quickly.

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Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Name: _____

2 Sound boxes

Say the word slowly. Write one sound in each box. Then read the word again.

Tip: push a coin or button into each box as you say each sound, then write. Some sounds are spelled with two or three letters (sh, ck, ee, igh): they share one box.

ten example	t | e | n
oven	
open	
garden	
happen	
chicken	
kitchen	
den	
then	

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Name: _____

3 Missing letters

Write a sound at the start to make a real -en word. Use each sound from the box once.

For the grown-up: Any real word is right, not only the one in the answer key. Ask your child to read each word they make.

Use each sound once: m wh p gl d t h th

1. ____ en
   write it: _____

2. ____ en
   write it: _____

3. ____ en
   write it: _____

4. ____ en
   write it: _____

5. ____ en
   write it: _____

6. ____ en
   write it: _____

7. ____ en
   write it: _____

8. ____ en
   write it: _____

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Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Name: _____

4 Word sort

Read each word in the box. Write it under the heading where it belongs, then cross it out in the box.

seven | when | hen | mitten | eleven | wren | kitten | glen | then | pen | men | den

CVC -en words	-en words with blends and digraphs	Longer words where -en sounds weak

Tip: read the heading word out loud first, then each word in the box. Do they sound alike?

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Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Name: _____

5 Read the sentences

Read each sentence out loud. Underline the -en words. Tick the box when you can read the sentence smoothly.

1. Ten hens sat in the pen. ☐
2. When is the hen in the den? ☐
3. The men got a red pen. ☐
4. Then the kitten had a nap. ☐
5. A wren sat in the glen. ☐
6. Put the mitten in the wooden box. ☐
7. The chicken is in the kitchen. ☐
8. Open the oven and get the buns. ☐

Great reading! You finished the pack.



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Answer key

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

2. Sound boxes

1. **oven** o | v | e | n
2. **open** o | p | e | n
3. **garden** g | ar | d | e | n
4. **happen** h | a | pp | e | n
5. **chicken** ch | i | ck | e | n
6. **kitchen** k | i | tch | e | n
7. **den** d | e | n
8. **then** th | e | n

3. Missing letters (any real word is right)

1. **men** — m (also right: den, hen, pen, ten)
2. **hen** — h (also right: den, men, pen, ten)
3. **ten** — t (also right: den, hen, men, pen)
4. **den** — d (also right: hen, men, pen, ten)
5. **glen** — gl (also right: then, when, wren)
6. **then** — th (also right: when, glen, wren)
7. **when** — wh (also right: then, glen, wren)
8. **pen** — p (also right: den, hen, men, ten)

4. Word sort

CVC -en words: den, hen, men, pen
-en words with blends and digraphs: then, when, glen, wren
Longer words where -en sounds weak: kitten, mitten, seven, eleven

5. Underlined words

1. Ten, hens, pen
2. When, hen, den
3. men, pen
4. Then, kitten
5. wren, glen
6. mitten, wooden
7. chicken, kitchen
8. Open, oven

Next step: words that were hard today go on tomorrow's re-read list. When the whole pack feels easy, move on to the next list at dyslexiasteps.com/word-families/en (see "Practise next").

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