

Dyslexia Steps Free printable worksheets

Nonsense words worksheets

6 pages · 44 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
vap	☐	☐	☐	maf	☐	☐	☐
mep	☐	☐	☐	keb	☐	☐	☐
mip	☐	☐	☐	bik	☐	☐	☐
vop	☐	☐	☐	fot	☐	☐	☐
rup	☐	☐	☐	dut	☐	☐	☐
blom	☐	☐	☐	frim	☐	☐	☐
jund	☐	☐	☐	lesk	☐	☐	☐
chot	☐	☐	☐	thib	☐	☐	☐

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

Free to share (CC BY 4.0) — Dyslexia Steps

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.

zab example	z	a	b	
fep				
tiv				
gok				
vun				
stom				
rilt				
shum				
laz				

Free to share (CC BY 4.0) — Dyslexia Steps

Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Name: _____

3 Missing letters

Listen to the made-up word. Write the vowel you hear.

For the grown-up: Made-up words work with any vowel, so read each word aloud from the answer key. Say it once, clearly; let your child repeat it before writing.

Sound box: a e i o u

1. w ___ b
   write it: _____
2. z ___ g
   write it: _____
3. w ___ g
   write it: _____
4. b ___ mp
   write it: _____
5. l ___ f
   write it: _____
6. gl ___ k
   write it: _____
7. h ___ b
   write it: _____
8. v ___ k
   write it: _____
9. ch ___ b
   write it: _____
10. b ___ m
    write it: _____

Free to share (CC BY 4.0) — Dyslexia Steps

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.

zab keb vap laz maf mep hib
bik fep vek mip tiv

Made-up short a words	Made-up short e words	Made-up short i words

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

Free to share (CC BY 4.0) — Dyslexia Steps

Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Name: _____

5 Read the sentences

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

1. A wug sat on a zog. ☐
2. The vap has a red hat. ☐
3. Can a gok swim in the pond? ☐
4. I had a blom and a frim. ☐
5. The zub ran to the mip. ☐
6. A fot is in the big box. ☐
7. The chot hid in the tent. ☐
8. Is that a vun or a rilt? ☐

Great reading! You finished the pack.



Free to share (CC BY 4.0) — Dyslexia Steps

Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Answer key

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

2. Sound boxes

1. **fep** f | e | p
2. **tiv** t | i | v
3. **gok** g | o | k
4. **vun** v | u | n
5. **stom** s | t | o | m
6. **rilt** r | i | l | t
7. **shum** sh | u | m
8. **laz** l | a | z

3. Missing letters

Read each word aloud before your child writes.

1. **wab** — a
2. **zog** — o
3. **wug** — u
4. **bamp** — a
5. **lif** — i
6. **glek** — e
7. **hib** — i
8. **vek** — e
9. **chab** — a
10. **bem** — e

4. Word sort

Made-up short a words: vap, maf, zab, laz
Made-up short e words: mep, keb, fep, vek
Made-up short i words: mip, bik, tiv, hib

5. Underlined words

1. wug, zog
2. vap
3. gok
4. blom, frim
5. zub, mip
6. fot
7. chot
8. vun, rilt

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/nonsense-words (see "Practise next").

Free to share (CC BY 4.0) — Dyslexia Steps

Scan to hear every word and play the listening game