

Dyslexia Steps Free printable worksheets

Word chains worksheets

6 pages · 65 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
cat	☐	☐	☐	hop	☐	☐	☐
sit	☐	☐	☐	cap	☐	☐	☐
pin	☐	☐	☐	hat	☐	☐	☐
ship	☐	☐	☐	sat	☐	☐	☐
rush	☐	☐	☐	pen	☐	☐	☐
duck	☐	☐	☐	shop	☐	☐	☐
lap	☐	☐	☐	rash	☐	☐	☐
ten	☐	☐	☐	luck	☐	☐	☐

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.

ham example	h	a	m	
sad				
pet				
chop				
cash				
lock				
clap				
tent				
hid				

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Name: _____

3 Change or add a sound

Change or add one sound to make the new word. Your grown-up says the new word; write the missing letters.

For the grown-up: Read the new word aloud (it is in the answer key). Several letters could make a real word, so the spoken word is the clue.

1. cat → ___ at
   write it: _____

2. sit → s ___ t
   write it: _____

3. pin → p ___ n
   write it: _____

4. ship → sh ___ p
   write it: _____

5. rush → r ___ sh
   write it: _____

6. duck → ___ uck
   write it: _____

7. lap → ___ lap
   write it: _____

8. ten → ten ___
   write it: _____

9. hop → hop ___
   write it: _____

10. cap → cap ___
    write it: _____

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Scan to hear every word and play the listening game

Name: _____

4 Find and circle

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

cat	cat	cap	cot	act
sit	sti	skit	sit	suit
pin	ipn	pin	pine	nip
ship	snip	shpi	sip	ship
rush	rush	rus	rash	ursh
duck	dock	duck	deck	buck
lap	lap	lpa	pal	lab
ten	ton	ten	then	net

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Name: _____

5 Read the sentences

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

1. The cat sat on a hat. ☐
2. A bug is on the mug in the mud. ☐
3. The hog sat on a log in the hot sun. ☐
4. I can chop and I can chip. ☐
5. Dad has cash for the path. ☐
6. A duck and a sock are in the sack. ☐
7. Clap your hand on the flat sand. ☐
8. I hope to ride home on time. ☐

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. **sad** s | a | d
2. **pet** p | e | t
3. **chop** ch | o | p
4. **cash** c | a | sh
5. **lock** l | o | ck
6. **clap** c | l | a | p
7. **tent** t | e | n | t
8. **hid** h | i | d

3. Missing letters

Read each word aloud before your child writes.

1. **hat** — h
2. **sat** — a
3. **pen** — e
4. **shop** — o
5. **rash** — a
6. **luck** — l
7. **clap** — c
8. **tent** — t
9. **hope** — e
10. **cape** — e

4. Find and circle

1. cat
2. sit
3. pin
4. ship
5. rush
6. duck
7. lap
8. ten

5. Underlined words

1. cat, sat, hat
2. bug, mug, mud
3. hog, sat, log, hot
4. chop, chip
5. cash, path
6. duck, sock, sack
7. Clap, hand, flat, sand
8. hope, ride, time

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-chains (see "Practise next").

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