

English Letter Sounds

In the English language each letter of the alphabet makes specific sounds. Knowing the sounds associated with each letter helps to break down words, which is an important skill when learning to read and spell. Some letters can sound soft or hard. For example, the letter C can sound soft like an S in the word "city" or hard like a K in the word "cat."

Aa	/a/ apple/ā/ acorn	Jj	/j/ jungle/j/ journal	Ss /s/ salamander /sh/ shoe
Bb	/b/ bear/b/ book	Kk	/k/ key/k/ kangaroo	Tt • /t/ table • /th/ thunder • /TH/ there
Сс	/k/ cat/s/ cinnamon/ch/ chair/sh/ chef	LI	/I/ leather /I/ lake	Uu • /ə/ ultimate • /ə/ under
Dd	/d/ door/d/ deer	Mm	/m/ machine/m/ minute	Vv • /v/ vowel • /v/ vanilla
Ee	/i/ ear/e/ egg	Nn	/n/ nickel/n/ nest	/w/ winter/w/ which/h/ who
Ff	/f/ face/f/ friend	Oo	 /o/ ostrich /ō/ oval 	Xx • /z/ xylophone • /eks/ X-ray
Gg	/g/ gold/j/ giraffe	Рр	/p/ pencil/f/ phone	Yy • /y/ yesterday • /y/ yarn
Hh	/h/ horse/h/ hand	Qq	/k/ quack/k/ question	Zz