

# ESL Phonics Word List

**h**

Hat  
Hen  
Hot  
Hand  
Horse  
House

**short i**

Ink  
Insect  
Sit  
Six  
In  
Win

**short u**

Sun  
Run  
Bus  
Cup  
Umbrella  
Up

**x**

Box  
Fox  
Six  
Mix  
Taxi

**v**

Van  
Violin  
Vet  
Video  
Vegetable  
Volcano

**w**

Water  
Window  
Wall  
White  
Whale  
Watch

# ESL Phonics Word List

## Digraphs

### Sh

Ship  
Shop  
Sheep  
Shirt  
Shoe  
Shower  
Shark  
Shell  
Short  
Fish  
Brush

### Th (unvoiced)

Thumb  
Think  
Thin  
Thirty  
Thursday  
Bath  
Three  
Mouth  
Teeth

### Th (voiced)

This  
That  
Feather  
Mother  
Brother  
They

### Ng

Sing  
Song  
King  
Ring  
Wing  
Long  
Strong

# ESL Phonics Word List

## Vowel Teams

### long oo/ue

Moon  
Food  
Room  
Pool  
Zoo  
Blue  
Glue  
True

### short oo

Book  
Look  
Good  
Foot  
Cook  
Wool

### oi/oy

Coin  
Boil  
Point  
Oil  
Join  
Boy  
Toy  
Enjoy

### ou/ow

House  
Mouse  
Cloud  
Round  
Cow  
Brown  
Town

### au/aw

Autumn  
August  
Sauce  
Pause  
Paw  
Draw  
Claw

# ESL Phonics Word List

Alternative spellings for long vowel sounds

## Long A

**ai**

Rain  
Train  
Paint  
Chain  
Snail  
Tail

**ay**

Day  
Play  
Today  
Stay

**a\_e**

Cake  
Game  
Name  
Snake

# ESL Phonics Word List

Alternative spellings for long vowel sounds

## Long E

**ee**

Tree  
Green  
Feet  
Cheese  
Sweet  
Sleep

**ea**

Leaf  
Meat  
Beans  
Tea  
Seat  
Beach

**e\_e**

These  
Theme  
Complete  
Scene

**ie**

Field  
Piece  
Chief  
Thief

**y**

Baby  
Family  
Candy  
Body  
City  
Happy

# ESL Phonics Word List

Alternative spellings for long vowel sounds

## Long i

**ie**

Tie

Pie

Die

**i\_e**

Bike

Time

Five

Smile

**y**

Sky

Fly

Cry

Dry

**igh**

Light

Night

High

Right

# ESL Phonics Word List

Alternative spellings for long vowel sounds

## Long O

**oa**

Boat  
Goat  
Road  
Coat

**ow**

Snow  
Grow  
Window  
Yellow

**o\_e**

Home  
Rose  
Phone  
Stone

# ESL Phonics Word List

Alternative spellings for long vowel sounds

## Long U

**ue**

Rescue  
Statue  
Value

**eu**

Europe

**u\_e**

Cube  
Use  
Cute  
Tube

**ew**

New  
Few



# ESL Phonics Word List

R-controlled vowels

**ar**

Car  
Star  
Farm  
Park  
Dark  
Hard  
Jar  
Part  
Start

**or**

Short  
Sport  
Corn  
Horse  
North  
Fork  
Storm

**er/ir/ur**

Her  
Verb  
Sister  
Tiger  
Teacher  
Girl  
Bird  
Shirt  
Circus  
Skirt  
Purple  
Nurse  
Turtle  
Hurt

# Ready to teach Sounds?

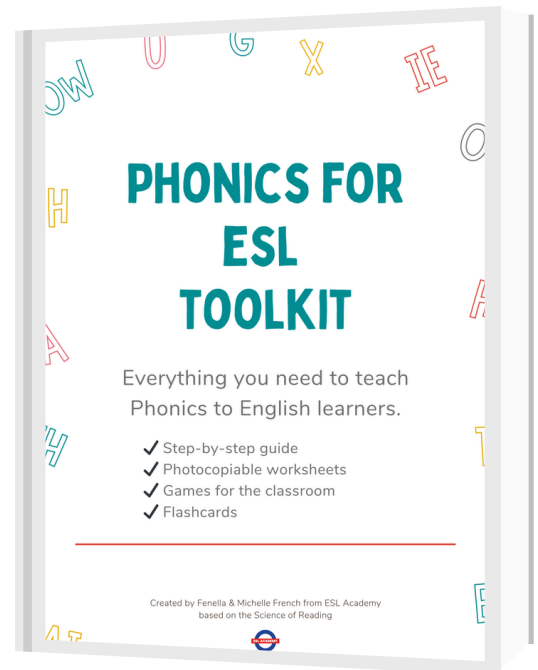
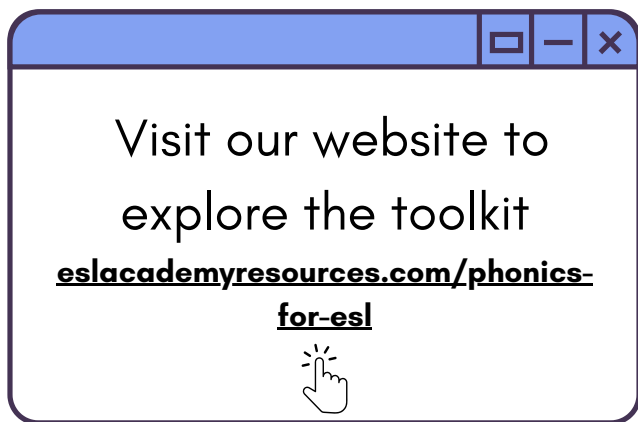
These word lists include high-frequency vocabulary chosen from Cambridge-aligned word banks and real ESL classroom use. They're designed to help teachers quickly find student-friendly examples for each phonics pattern.

Tired of searching for high-quality phonics resources that actually work in the ESL classroom, we decided to create the **Phonics for ESL Toolkit**: everything we use ourselves to teach phonics, organised into three levels and designed specifically for English learners.

Inside you'll find:

- Step-by-step teacher guide
- Photocopiable, ready-to-use worksheets
- Games and flashcards to make practice fun
- Matching phonics videos

No more piecing together activities from different sources, it's all in one place, ready to use!



JOIN NOW!

