

phonicspelling Workshop Handout

for educators & learners: introduction to

Lesson-Activity Samples: Word Search (phonic

phonic[pelling: EVERYTHING to Know (Now) about

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**Outline of Pedagogical Information** 

4-of-a-Kind Category Card Pack Sample: Initial Consonants

Teaching & Learning English Phonics & Spelling

to Know (Now) about Teaching & Learning Learning = fanik Speling Spe

....American-English Phonics & Spelling

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by Elaine Kirn-Rubin & Arthur E. Rubin © 2011 Authors & Editors

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Published in the United States of America by
Authors & Editors, 10736 Jefferson Blvd. #604
Culver City, California 90230--4969
Telephone 310-836-2014 Fax 310-836-1845



www.2learn-english.com info@2learn-english.com www.authorsandeditors.net

Printed by Burdge Cooper Printing, 1565 E. 23rd St. Los Angeles, California, 90011 terryh@burdgecooper.com

ISBN-13: 978-1-934637-37-1 ISBN-10: 1-934637-37-8
Manufactured in the United States of America





Dedicated to the Memory of

Dale Judith Rubin Arno

"A Gifted Speller"

(1938—2010)

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Publication Info for phonic[pelling = fansk's pelm, by Elaine Kirn-Rubin & Arthur E. Rubin

for educators & learners: introduction to

### phonicspelling

### EVERYTHING to Know (Now) about Teaching & Learning American-English Phonics & Spelling

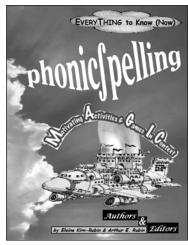
Language Learning Levels & Skills = Pre-Literate to Beginning Reading & Writing;
Beginning to Advanced Spelling & Vocabulary

It encourages learners to correlate (associate) the 40 or more sounds of spoken. American-English with the 26 written letters of the alphabet. When "decoding" an unfamiliar word with the phonics method, new readers try to put the sounds of the letters together to produce its approximate pronunciation. Conversely, when they attempt to spell a new item from its sounds, they choose the letters or letter sequences most likely to result in correct—or at least recognizable—orthography.

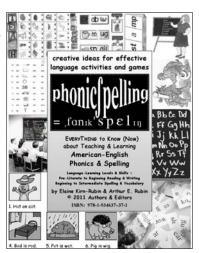
Though not without controversy in elementary education, the phonics approach has almost always proven beneficial in the development of reading and writing fluency. Both native speakers of English and speakers of other languages, most of which include a nearly one-to-one correspondence between letters and sounds, express frustration with the sound/spelling system of English. Despite its complexity, however, there are useful phonics and spelling patterns and rules. Everybody learning and using English can profit from an understanding of the system—not only children preparing to read but also adult new readers, learners of English as a second or new language, and anyone that needs to read and write. With effective help, everyone can learn to:

- differentiate between letter names and sounds in phonics or pronunciation instruction
  - recognize familiar vocabulary in print without having to memorize its spelling
- "sound out" new items with regular spellings; check their pronunciation in a dictionary
  - make "educated guesses" at the spelling of words they hear and can repeat clearly
    - notice the exceptional spellings of words they'll need to "sight read" or memorize
      - use knowledge of phonics and spelling to facilitate language learning in general

Following are suggestions for effective language activities and games designed to teach or learn English phonics and spelling. Most require little or no preparation or correction. At skills levels ranging from pre-literate to advanced, all the ideas can add variety, motivation, cooperation, and/or competition to the language classroom, tutoring situation, learning group, and/or individual study. Though the wording of the instructions is directed at educators and facilitators, learners will be able to follow many of the steps on their own. In fact, teaching can become learning—and learning, teaching—not only in phonics/spelling but in many aspects of language acquisition and improvement.



## EVERYTHING to Know (Now) about Teaching & Learning American-English Phonics & Spelling



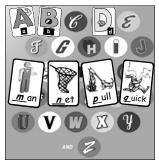
[creative ideas for effective language activities and games]

Language Learning Levels & Skills = Pre-Literate to Beginning Reading & Writing; Beginning to Advanced Spelling & Vocabulary











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pat pet pit  phonic pelling Simple Vowel- Sound Bingo Grid 1  put  part  part  pert
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### phonicspelling zē = /ziy/ Summary & Quiz

Here's a summary of the most useful, important information presented and practiced in this EVERYTHING to Know (Now) about Teaching & Learning English Phonics & Spelling Resource Book, also entitled phonic pelling. These pages can be copied and handed out for learners to study; teachers or tutors can give short oral "lectures" on salient points. Also, participants can divide the material into segments equivalent in length and content, taking responsibility for "teaching" their parts to everyone else in their group.

- 1. A letter is a kind of character or symbol. In linear (line) form, it is used for printing or writing. (Type fonts also include other kinds of *notation* like *numbers*, *punctuation marks*, *phonetic symbols*.) The English alphabetic writing system, derived from the Roman or Latin, contains 26 letters a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, h, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z. These can appear in both upper and lower cases, block (manuscript)-printing and cursive-writing forms. Alphabetical order is the standard sequence of the 26 letters that begins with a and ends with z—used for filing, reference lists, and other everyday purposes.
- 2. Phonics refers to a very effective and probably necessary method for teaching and learning word-level American-English reading and writing. Students of phonics learn to connect (associate or relate) the 40 or more sounds of American English speech with (combinations of) the 26 letters. Getting knowledge of—and developing a "feel" for—these correlations is likely to help people read words and phrases aloud as well as spell them from their pronunciation. It also makes it easier to recognize productive patterns and rules to work with—as opposed to less common (unusual) exceptions to look up or memorize.
- 3. The alphabet letters  $\underline{a} \underline{z}$  and the digraphs  $\underline{ch}$ ,  $\underline{nq}$ ,  $\underline{ph}$ ,  $\underline{sh}$ ,  $\underline{th}$ ,  $\underline{wh}$  stand for speech sounds. Many of these—such as  $a = /\bar{a} + \bar{a} + \bar{b} + \bar{b}$  and  $\bar{a} = /\bar{a} + \bar{b} + \bar{b}$ . one sound (within different combinations in a variety of word positions). Conversely, a number of speech sounds can be spelled by different letters—like the  $\sqrt{a}$  sound in play, aim, able, weigh; /k/ as in cake, school, kick, clique; /dz/ as in judge, ginger, eject, George; /f/ as in fluffy, phony, laugh; /z/ as in <u>zoo</u>, pu<u>zzles</u>, cau<u>ses</u>. Only the letters <u>j</u> and <u>x regularly</u> spell two sounds together: /dʒ/ and /gz ks/. And nearly every letter can be silent (not pronounced) in some words (e.g., lamb, hour, anat, ahost, kniaht, wrestler, psalm).
- 4. The five letters a, e, i, o, u always produce vowel sounds—often in a sequence or combination. Also, w and y sometimes function as vowels. Each syllable of written or spoken language has one—and only one—vowel sound, pronounced "open"—i.e., with no mouth parts touching. In English, there are at least 15 distinct vowel sounds, about half of them simple, (re)lax(ed), or "short"— "r-colored vowels." Some International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols for these sounds are  $/\infty$ ,  $\epsilon$ , I,  $\alpha$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\vartheta$ ,  $\upsilon$ ,  $\vartheta$ ,  $\upsilon$ ,  $\vartheta$ ,  $\upsilon$ , ey, iy, ay, ow, uw, au, oi /—and in some dialects /3(r)  $\hat{a}(r)$   $\hat{a}(r)$   $\alpha i^{\circ}(r)$   $\alpha i^{\circ}(r)$ Generally, vowel sounds may be more difficult to distinguish and to spell than consonant sounds.

- 5. Consonants are speech sounds made with partial or complete closure of the vocal tract. Alone at the beginning or end of syllables, the 19 letters b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, x, z can represent 17 different voiced or voiceless single consonant sounds—/ b p d t g k v f z s ʃ ʒ r l m n h / and the combined sounds /dʒ/. /tʃ ŋ ð θ ʃ (h)w/ are most often spelled by the digraphs ch, -ng, th, sh, wh. When not (part of) vowel spellings as in gym, my, boys, saw, owl, w and y spell initial consonant sounds—as in well, yes. Except for h, v, and x, consonants can sometimes be "doubled"—as in rabbit, badge, stuff, simmer, session, or pitcher. There are also many initial and final consonant clusters (blends with no vowel sounds between the consonants)—such as bl, cr, sk, squ, spr, tw, thr; lch, ld, nce, ngth, rge, st.
- 7. Syllables of longer vocabulary items may be (part of) word roots (stems) or affixes—either prefixes added to the beginning of words or suffixes added to the end. English roots like -cep(t), -por(t), -vers-, -jec(t), many derived from Greek or Latin, often have general associations that may help learners figure out the meanings of words that contain them. Prefixes like a-, ab-(="down, from"), co-, col-, com-(="with"), for-("completely"), -in, mis-, non-, un-(="not") tend to clarify or change word meanings, as in absent (= "away from here"), collect (= "put together"), forbid (= "prohibit"), unknown (= "not known"). Suffixes may not only indicate items' parts of speech but also their grammatical functions in sentences—e.g., comfortable (adjective = "providing comfort"); zealous (adjective = "full of zeal"); added (simple past form of add); eaten (past participle of eat); faster (= comparative adjective/adverb form of fast), apologize (verb = "give an apology"), Martian (noun = being from Mars); useless (adjective = "without a use"); motivating (continuous verb form or present participial adjective); searches (regular plural noun or third person singular present verb). These word parts follow learnable spelling rules.
- 8. It's helpful to know the differences between or among words with certain similarities. For example, homographs are words with identical spellings but different pronunciations and meanings, like the noun bow (/bow/ = "a tool for shooting arrows") vs. the verb bow (/bow/ = "to bend in greeting"); the noun minute (/minit/ = "1/60 of an hour") vs. the adjective minute (/mainut/ = "very, very small"). Even more common are homophones—words of different meanings pronounced the same but spelled differently, like the noun ad (= "advertisement") vs. the verb add (= "to put [numbers] together"); the past verb blew (= "moved air") vs. the adjective blue (= "the color of clear sky"); the singular present verb chews (= "crushes with teeth") vs. the verb choose ("to select"), etc.
- 9. Compounds contain two or more smaller elements with separate meanings when not joined. They may be "closed" or "solid" single words like anyone, backfire, carsick, dateline, eyesight; hyphenated forms, most often adjectives in noun phrases such as all-around, blue-green, cold-hearted, down-to-earth; or "open" phrases with spaces between their parts, like all right, ball game, carbon dioxide, dining room, etc. Generally, these two- or three-part vocabulary items follow much the same phonics patterns and spelling rules as uncombined words. Like other kinds of vocabulary, mastering them will contribute to word-level reading and spelling proficiency.

### Instructions for phonic spelling: Summary & Quiz

To assess understanding or mastery of the essential content of this EVERYTHING to Know (Now) about Teaching & Learning English Phonics & Spelling Resource Book, take and/or give this three-part "Final Quiz" individually and/or in cooperative groups. The 9 items in each Level correspond to the 9 paragraph sections in the reading or lecture on pages 221-222.

After checking answers and reviewing salient points and related information, use the acquired knowledge and skills for further reading and spelling improvement.

	If necessary, fix the incorrect items to make them true.	wrong.
1.	There are over 40 letters in the English alphabetic writing system, which begins with and ends with the English alphabetic writing system, which begins with and ends with the English alphabetic writing system, which	F = false
2.	<i>Phonics</i> is a method of reading/writing instruction that connects the pronunciation of the <i>sounds</i> of English to their <i>spelling</i> (letter sequences).	T = true
3.	English spelling is easy because each letter always spells the same sound.  Also, every sound of the language is spelled by the same letter or letters.	
4.	There are only five (5) vowel <i>sounds</i> in English, but they represent (stand for) over 40 distinct simple and complex vowel <i>letters</i> .	
5.	The consonant letters are b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z.  There are also digraphs like ch- or -ng and clusters like bl-, cr-, str-, -rch.	
6.	A syllable is a "beat" in speech with more than one consonant but no vowels. There are no one-syllable words in English but many with more than six.	
7.	Some possible parts of longer words are <i>roots</i> and <i>affixes—prefixes</i> added at the beginning and <i>suffixes</i> added to the end.	
8.	Homographs are pairs of words pronounced alike but spelled differently.  Homophones look the same but sound different; their meanings are identical.	
9.	Items containing two or more smaller components with separate meanings, with or without hyphens or spaces between them, are called <i>compounds</i> .	
	LEVEL 2 = MULITIPLE CHOICE. Circle the letters of <u>all</u> the correct answers.	
1.	Which of these characters (symbols) are <i>letters</i> of the American English alpha /æ/ $\bar{a}$ â $b$ ¢ $b$ ( $b$ /	
2.	What is <i>phonics</i> ? a. aural/oral pronunciation b. a cursive set of suffix spelling rules c. a system of word-level instruction that correlates letters with the sounds they make	
3.	What's true about English spelling? a. One letter might represent different so b. Many sounds can be spelled in more than one way. c. It's always regular (pre	
4.	What's true about American English <i>vowel sounds and spellings?</i> a. They are <i>co</i> b. They're usually spelled by (combinations of) the letters <i>a, e, i, o, u, w, y.</i> c. They can be <i>simple</i> ("short") or <i>tense</i> ("long"). d. They're said with the mou	

### Continued: Level 2 = Mulitiple Choice. Circle the letters of <u>all</u> the correct answers.

- 5. What's true about consonants? a. There are more consonant letters than vowel letters.
  b. They can produce voiced or voiceless sounds.
  c. Some of them can be doubled.
  d. They can occur in clusters (blends).
  d. Every syllable must have some of them.
- 6. What's true about syllables in words? a. One vowel sound equals one syllable "beat."
  b. They can be "closed" (ending in consonants) or "open" (ending in vowel sounds).
  c. Every word has one or more of them. d. They all have a high-pitched VCVCV pattern.
- 7. What are some possible word parts? a. clustered beats without vowels between them b. prefixes c. doubled h, v, and x d. word roots or stems e. suffixes (added endings)
- 8. What are some examples of homophone pairs or groups that are not homographs?
  a. bow/bow/bows b. kick/kicking/kicked c. way/weigh/whey d. knight/night
  e. buffet/buffet f. assistance/assistants g. for/fore/four h. flour/flower
- 9. Which of these are compound vocabulary items? a. important b. boring lectures c. polysyllabic d. somebody e. backtrack f. carpool g. daytime h. drive-in i. your place j. go-between k. word-of-mouth l. breathe air m. bus driver

### LEVEL 3 = WH— QUESTIONS. Tell or write at much as you can to answer these questions.

- 1. What are alphabetic letters? What are the names of the 26 letters of the English writing system in alphabetic order?
- 2. What is important and useful to know about *phonics* in learning to read and spell?
- 3. What's the relationship between the 26 alphabet letters and the 40 or more sounds?
- 4. What's important to know about vowels in American English pronunciation and spelling?
- 5. Which facts are true about both vowels and consonants? Which are different?
- 6. How are syllables important in oral and/or written language? What do speakers and writers need to know about them?
- 7. How does it help to know about word parts: prefixes, roots (stems), suffixes?
- 8. What's the difference between *homographs* and *homophones?* How does it help to know pairs or groups of vocabulary words of these kinds? What's the best way to learn them?
- 9. What are the three kinds of compound vocabulary items (words and phrases)?
  What's the best way to learn them?

Here are the most likely answers to the 27 Final Quiz items on pages 223-224.

[Corrections to wrong statements are in brackets.] I. F [26, a, z, writing] 2. T 3. F [difficult... many letters can spell different sounds... some sounds are spelled by different letters] 4. F [letters... sounds] 5. T 6. F [with one vowel, optional consonant(s)... many I-syllable... few with more than 6. 7. T 8. F [spelled the same but pronounced differently... sound alike but look different; ... meanings are different. 9. T LEVEL 2 = Multiple Choice: 1. b c d f g h i k m. Level 3 = WH-Questions of the vording of responses can vary greatly. Here are only a few key-word possibilities.] I. symbols, characters, writing I or more simple and complex sounds; many regular to exceptional spellings 5. smallest units of speech sounds; writing 15 or more simple and complex sounds; many regular to exceptional spellings 5. smallest units of speech sounds; much vs. closure of vocal tract 6. beats of language; one or more per word 7. helps with spelling and meaning 8. spelled or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings of elements with compounds or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings of elements with compounds or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings of elements with compounds or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings of elements with compounds or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings of elements with compounds or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings of elements with compounds or pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated, open; contrast meanings 9. elements of speech specific pronounced the same? Different meanings 9. closed (solid), hyphenated pronounced the specific pronounced the sp

### patterns from exceptions; workin syllables, word parts, and spelli letters to sounds—and vice vers guishing regular and less commo can make rapid progress in their teaching/learning efforts and su Having grasped the concepts of to the fundamentals of word-lev spelling, and oral/written vocabi Now that participants have bee will soon be available as complete, flexibly Homophones, Compounds, etc., these are or multi-leveled, professionally produced Word Puzzles, Playing-Card Packs, Grid & Board Sames, and the Same of Knowledge: phonic[pelling. On the topics of Consonants. Vowels, Rhyming Words, Word Parts. pages 177 to 224 summarize some of the most engaging, motivating methodologies: instruction. In addition, Ideas V-Z on word-level vocabulary; they also cover the most important, useful content for language effective study of phonics, spelling, and Activity Ideas A-U of phonic fpelling not only with phonicspelling? offer "how-to advice" on the efficient, So what goes along Authors & Editors packages.

compete in anchoring (imbedd learners can now work togethe words in *compounds,* language t homographs and homophones; an choosing among easily confused their knowledge and skills.

the products most relevant to th Following is condensed informati

objectives of phonic Selling. See also Autho

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### phonicfpelling

228-Page How-to Resource Book ISBN: 978-1-934637-3

2

(Creative Ideas for Effective Language Activities & Game Phonics, a method for teaching English speakers to read and write, er and enables learners to correlate (associate) the 40 or more spoken s EVERYTHING to Know (Now) about Phonics & Spelling Ins

book for the "Everything to Know (Now)..." concept, phonic/pelling, b where ผมิติเลขติกา ผินของการ ends. It offers and recommends innovative

the language with the 26 letters of the alphabetic writing system. The

practical activities, games, and puzzles needing little preparation, desi for sounds, syllable patterns, spelling by the rules, word roots + affixes, homographs & homophones, to teach language-sound awareness, initial- and final-consonant sounds and spellings (including compound words and phrases, and much more. simple and complex vowels, phonetic symbols blends), word families & rhyming-word sets),

classroom-ready materials, including enlargeable Along with referrals to downloadable web pages competition to the language classroom, tutoring situation, learning group, and/or individual study will add variety, inspiration, cooperation, and/or At most proficiency levels, the 26 Ideas A to Z card decks and game boards + templates. each section includes many reproducible



## phonicfpelling Initial Consonants

5-8 O-12 CVC

Packs + 72- & 88-Page Activity & Idea Books, ISBNs 978-1-934637-Basic, Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced 54-, 72-, 166-, 244-Card 38-8 & -39-5; 978-1-934637-40-1 & 41-8

competition of classic (children's) card games, like P-I-G, Snap, Concentration, consisting of four-of-a-kind item sets are well suited for the motivating, friendly Initial-Consonants Cards, players work on classifying basic vocabulary in four Go Fish, Old Maid, War, I Doubt It, Rummy, etc. With these phonicfpelling As explained and sampled in phonicipelling Activity-Ideas F-H, card packs categories—people or animals, places, things, actions—at the same time practicing the sounds and spellings of initial consonants.

 $\underline{c}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{c}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{d}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{f}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{d}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{g}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{f}_{l}$ ,  $\underline{f}$ At the Basic Level, these picture cards display one-syllable words that start with  $\underline{b},\underline{c},\underline{d},\underline{f},\underline{g},\underline{p},\underline{f},\underline{m},\underline{E},\underline{f},\underline{g},\underline{f},\underline{w}$ . Beginning cards contain different sets of words beginning with those letters—plus  $\underline{eh},\underline{f},\underline{g},\underline{n}$  and  $\underline{eh}$ . In the Intermediate-Level Initial-Consonants Card Pack, there are also items with the initial consonants one- and multi-syllable items with regular, irregular, and exceptional spellings. digraphs, and clusters are in the Advanced-Level Pack, which contains both

Two lower- and upper-level Activity & Idea Books give teaching and learning games, and word lists for fairly complete reading/phonics/spelling instruction. information, suggested steps for vocabulary acquisition activities and card range of linguistic information and condensed plus complete word lists. There are ideas for basic as well as more challanging educational

## phonicfpelling Rhyming Words

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