

# STEPS TO LEARNING A SOUND

## *Step One*

### **Discriminating between sounds**

Your child learns to hear the difference between two sounds. E.g., “boat” vs “bout”, “goat” vs “doat”

## *Step Two*

### **Imitating the sound**

Your child repeats the target sound after you.

## *Step Three*

### **Producing the sound independently**

Your child says the sound on their own, without your help.

## *Step Four*

### **Practising the sound in nonsense syllables**

The sound is practised at the beginning, middle, and end of made-up or “silly” words. E.g., koo, kau, eekee, ark

## *Step Five*

### **Saying the sound in real words (after you)**

Your child repeats real words containing the sound after hearing you say them.

## *Step Six*

### **Saying the sound in real words independently**

Your child says real words with the sound on their own.

## *Step Seven*

### **Using the sound in carrier phrases**

The sound is practised in short, repeated phrases. E.g., “I found a \_\_”, “Put it in the \_\_”

## *Step Eight*

### **Saying the sound in sentences (after you)**

Your child repeats sentences containing the sound after you say them.

## *Step Nine*

### **Saying the sound in sentences independently**

Your child creates or says their own sentences with the sound.

## *Step Ten*

### **Using the sound in conversation**

The sound is used correctly during everyday talking.

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## NOTES

- Children need to be confident and consistent at each step before moving on to the next.
- Just because a child can say a sound on its own doesn't mean they can use it correctly in words or conversation yet.
- If your child is having difficulty at a certain step, go back to the previous step and build up again.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



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