Free CVC word books for kids

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Peabody has 78 free CVC word books for kids: short readers where most words are a consonant, a short vowel and a consonant, like cat, pig and hop. They are sorted by short vowel, a picture on every page. Read them online or print each one. No account is needed.

What a CVC word is

A CVC word has three sounds: a consonant, a short vowel and a consonant, as in cat, pig, hop and bus. A child can sound each one out and join the sounds. These books keep to words like that, plus a few common words that come back often, so a beginner can read most of a page alone.

How to read one together

Read the title aloud and let your child read the next pages, pointing under each word. If they stop at a word, say each sound from left to right, then join them smoothly. The decodable readers page explains how the books were counted and has the blend books that come next.

Short a readers

Short a is the sound in cat, hat and nap. Each book here has at least three different short a words and more of them than of any other short vowel.

- Pit, Pat: Level 0 · 18 words · 8 pages
- Dad Naps: Level 0 · 22 words · 9 pages
- Pat, Pat, Pat: Level 0 · 31 words · 12 pages
- A Dim Man: Level 0 · 30 words · 11 pages
- Tap in the Dim: Level 0 · 33 words · 12 pages
- Mad Dad: Level 0 · 36 words · 12 pages
- Sid Sat: Level 0 · 24 words · 8 pages
- Tim Taps: Level 0 · 31 words · 10 pages
- Did It: Level 0 · 25 words · 8 pages
- Clap and Stomp: Level 2 · 51 words · 11 pages
- Nat Naps: Level 0 · 29 words · 9 pages
- Sam Taps a Pan: Level 0 · 29 words · 9 pages
- In My Bag: Level 3 · 36 words · 10 pages
- Stop, Dad!: Level 2 · 45 words · 12 pages
- A Web on the Bed: Level 1 · 46 words · 12 pages
- The Black Cat: Level 2 · 67 words · 12 pages
- Bat in the Hat: Level 1 · 44 words · 11 pages

- Rat's Hut: Level 1 · 44 words · 11 pages
- Tab Can Not Nap: Level 1 · 52 words · 12 pages
- The Black Thing: Level 2 · 52 words · 11 pages
- The Red Hat: Level 3 · 55 words · 12 pages

Short e readers

Short e is the sound in pet, bed and hen. Each book here has at least three different short e words and more of them than of any other short vowel.

- A Bun for Fran: Level 2 · 47 words · 12 pages
- Boy Yells Wolf: Level 4 · 61 words · 12 pages
- Where Is Ned's Hat?: Level 5 · 63 words · 9 pages
- Meg and the Seed: Level 3 · 58 words · 12 pages
- Peg Gets Wet: Level 1 · 53 words · 12 pages
- Ned and the Red Jet: Level 1 · 50 words · 11 pages
- Chip and the Shell: Level 2 · 43 words · 9 pages
- Big Prints in the Hall: Level 3 · 56 words · 13 pages
- A Nest on the Hill: Level 2 · 60 words · 12 pages

Short i readers

Short i is the sound in sit, pig and dig. Each book here has at least three different short i words and more of them than of any other short vowel.

- A Tan Map: Level 0 · 30 words · 11 pages
- Pip Dips: Level 0 · 33 words · 12 pages
- A Pin in a Tin: Level 0 · 32 words · 10 pages
- Jem Is Mad: Level 4 · 71 words · 17 pages
- Which Dish, Chad?: Level 2 · 64 words · 12 pages
- Tim in a Tin: Level 0 · 40 words · 11 pages
- A Hum in the Hall: Level 2 · 61 words · 12 pages
- Kip and the Crab: Level 3 · 57 words · 14 pages
- The Little Red Hen: Level 4 · 96 words · 24 pages
- Josh and the Bug: Level 2 · 70 words · 12 pages
- Liv and the Ants: Level 4 · 87 words · 17 pages
- The Hen Who Hisses: Level 2 · 53 words · 11 pages
- Seth and the Ship: Level 2 · 62 words · 12 pages
- Fish in a Dish: Level 2 · 44 words · 9 pages
- Frogs Are Amazing: Level 5 · 100 words · 17 pages

Short o readers

Short o is the sound in hop, dog and log. Each book here has at least three different short o words and more of them than of any other short vowel.

- Stop, Bus!: Level 2 · 40 words · 10 pages
- Mop Can Hop: Level 3 · 46 words · 13 pages
- A Fox in a Box: Level 1 · 40 words · 10 pages
- Bob Mops: Level 1 · 48 words · 12 pages
- The Plum: Level 2 · 57 words · 12 pages
- Hot Pot: Level 1 · 45 words · 11 pages
- Big Egg: Level 4 · 96 words · 17 pages
- Frog on a Log: Level 2 · 45 words · 9 pages
- Gus and the Big Rock: Level 4 · 90 words · 16 pages
- Dot and the Log: Level 5 · 82 words · 16 pages

Short u readers

Short u is the sound in cup, sun and bug. Each book here has at least three different short u words and more of them than of any other short vowel.

- Pup in the Tub: Level 1 · 31 words · 9 pages
- Ants Are Strong: Level 3 · 52 words · 12 pages
- Zed and the Rug: Level 1 · 41 words · 10 pages
- The Big Truck: Level 2 · 44 words · 9 pages

Mixed short vowels

These books mix several short vowels, such as cat, dog, bed and run in one story, with no one sound ahead of the rest. They suit a child who knows the short vowels, or the next step after one vowel at a time.

- Sit, Pip, Sit!: Level 0 · 29 words · 9 pages
- Get Up, Gus!: Level 1 · 34 words · 10 pages
- Jen and the Jam: Level 1 · 24 words · 7 pages
- Pam Pins a Map: Level 0 · 31 words · 9 pages
- The Hat Cat: Level 3 · 70 words · 14 pages
- Can Ted Hop?: Level 1 · 29 words · 8 pages
- Bev Has a Pet: Level 1 · 37 words · 10 pages
- The Red Bus: Level 1 · 30 words · 8 pages
- Where Is the Cat?: Level 3 · 63 words · 12 pages
- Moss and the Box: Level 3 · 65 words · 16 pages
- Can I Pet It?: Level 4 · 64 words · 11 pages

- Dots in the Hut: Level 1 · 40 words · 10 pages
- I See a Boy: Level 3 · 56 words · 14 pages
- Fox and the Hen: Level 1 · 37 words · 9 pages
- Ten Hens: Level 1 · 46 words · 11 pages
- Bed Is Full: Level 1 · 51 words · 12 pages
- Ten Pigs: Level 1 · 30 words · 7 pages
- A Cat and a Dog: Level 3 · 61 words · 14 pages
- Look at the Big Pig: Level 4 · 53 words · 10 pages

Printing

Every card has a Print link. It opens a page where the book prints as a small cut-and-staple book on two sheets of paper, or all on one page. See printable books for kids.

After CVC

When short vowels feel easy, the decodable readers page has blends and digraphs, and beginning reader books has levels 3 to 5.

More free stories

- The whole library: free stories by reading level, no account needed.
- Classic stories retold short: fables, fairy tales, myths and legends.
- Free decodable readers, sorted by phonics pattern
- Free beginning reader books for kids just learning to read
- Free kindergarten books to read online or print
- Free sight word stories for kids, to read and print
- By level: Level 0 · Level 1 · Level 2 · Level 3 · Level 4 · Level 5

Questions parents ask

What does CVC mean?

CVC stands for consonant, vowel, consonant: a three-sound word with a short vowel in the middle, like cat or sit. It is usually the first kind of word a child learns to sound out and blend.

Are these books only CVC words?

No. Most words in each book are short sound-it-out words, and a few common words repeat, like the, I and see, which a child learns by sight. The decodable readers page says how the books were counted.

Can I print these books?

Yes. Each card has a Print link with two layouts: a small book to cut and staple, or the whole book on one page.

Do the books cost anything?

No. Every story on this page is free to read through the end of 2026, with no account and no card.

Free at peabody.kids/cvc-word-books-for-kids