

What is Phonics?

Phonics - teaching speakers of English to read and write their language. It involves connecting the sounds of spoken English with letters or groups of letters (e.g. that the sound /k/ can be represented by *c*, *k*, *ck* or *ch* spellings). It also involves teaching them to blend the sounds of letters together to produce words. Eg; c -a-t = cat

Terminology!

Phonics - Phonics is how we read and write. We blend words to read and we segment words to write. We segment the words into phonemes.

Phonemes - A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word. For example, the word 'cat' has three phonemes, 'c', 'a', 't'. When we are writing something down, phonemes are represented by graphemes.

Graphemes - A grapheme is the written symbol of a phoneme. It is a letter, or group of letters, representing a sound. For example, the 'c' sound (or phoneme) can be written using the 'c', 'k' or 'ck' graphemes.

digraph - two letters making one sound, e.g. sh, ch, th, ph.

vowel digraph - two letters which, together, make one vowel sound, e.g. ai, oo, ow

split digraph - two letters, split, making one sound, e.g. a-e as in make or i-e in site

Segmenting - Segmenting consists of breaking words down into their smallest units of sound (phonemes) to spell.

Blending - Blending consists of building words from their smallest units of sound (phonemes) to read.

Digraph - A digraph is a two-letter grapheme where two letters represent one sound. For example, 'ea' in 'seat' and 'sh' in 'ship'.

Trigraph - A trigraph is a three-letter grapheme where three letters represent one sound (phoneme). For example, 'igh' in 'light'.

Consonant cluster - A consonant cluster is a group of consonants that creates a sound that does not include any vowel sounds. For example, 's', 't' and 'r' create the 'str' sound in strap.

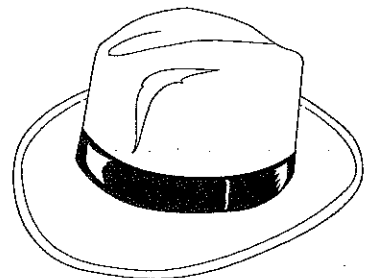
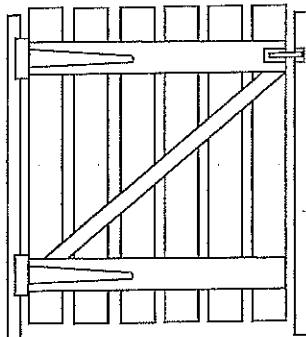
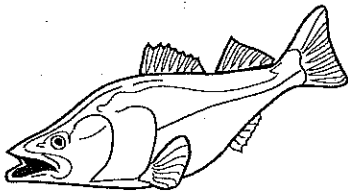
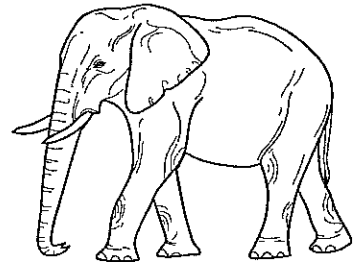
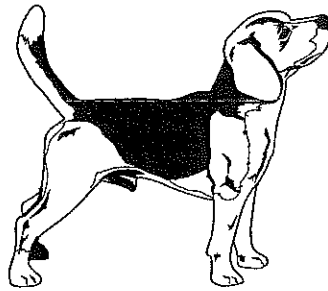
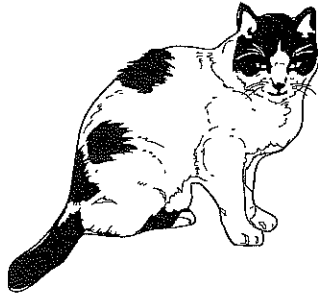
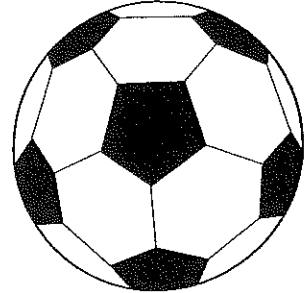
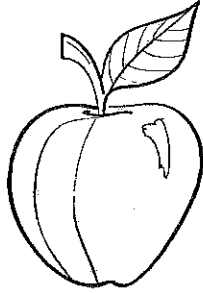
Syllable - A syllable is part of a word and only contains one vowel sound. The word 'pocket' has two syllables, 'pock' 'et'.

CVC - A word made up of Consonant-Vowel-Consonant (e.g. dog). VC (at), CVCC (hump), CCVC (crab) etc. may also be used.

grapheme-phoneme correspondence (GPC) - the relationship between sounds and the letters which represent those sounds; also known as 'letter-sound correspondences'

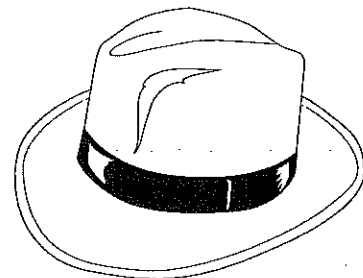
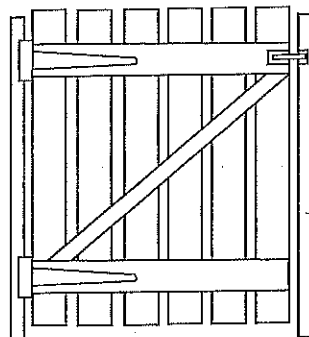
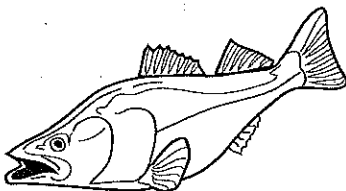
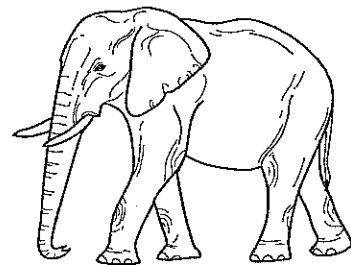
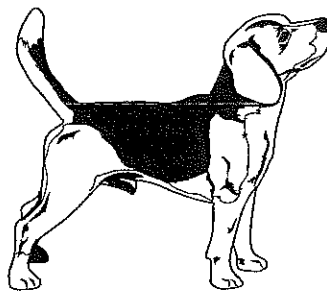
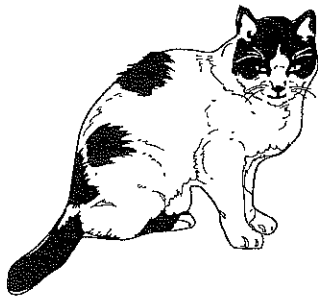
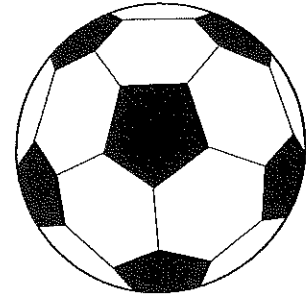
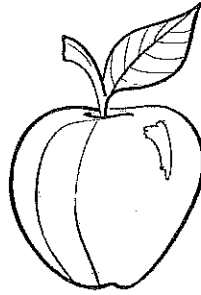
1.1 Alphabet pictures a-h

Alphabet pictures for
you to cut out and use.



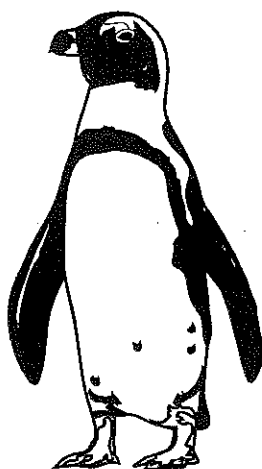
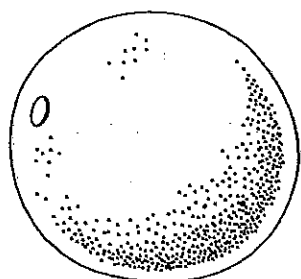
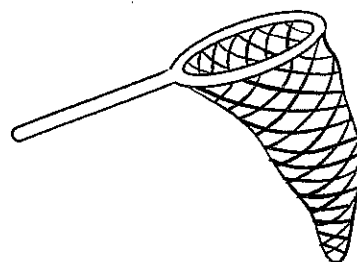
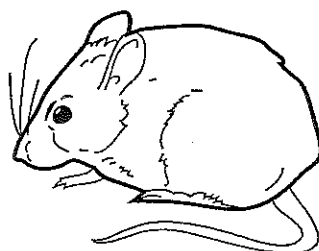
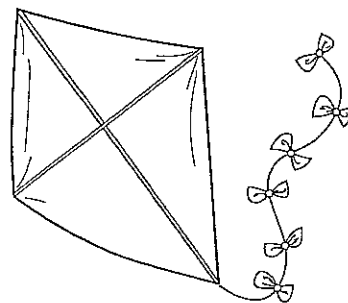
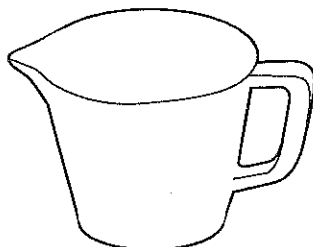
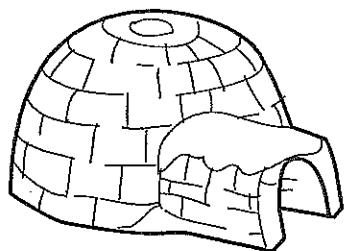
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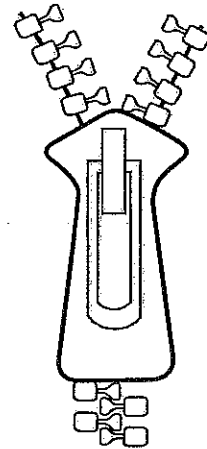
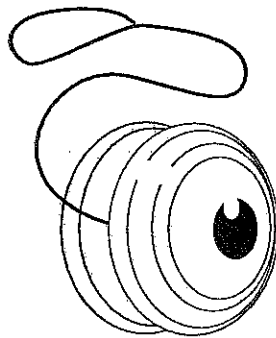
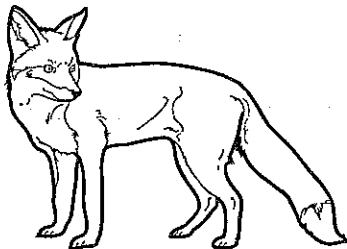
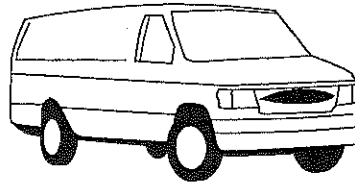
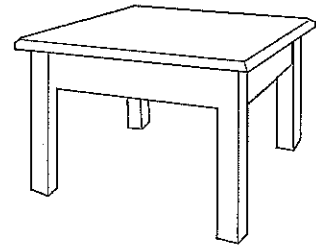
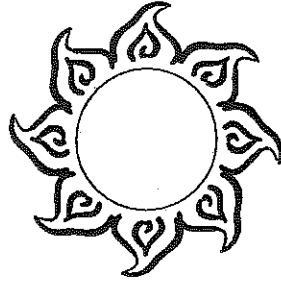
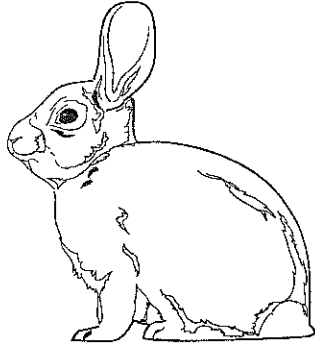
1.2 Alphabet pictures i-q

Alphabet pictures for you to cut out and use.



1.3 Alphabet pictures r-z

Alphabet pictures for you to cut out and use.



1.7 Lower-case letters a-h

Lower-case letters for you to cut out and use.

a

a

b

c

d

e

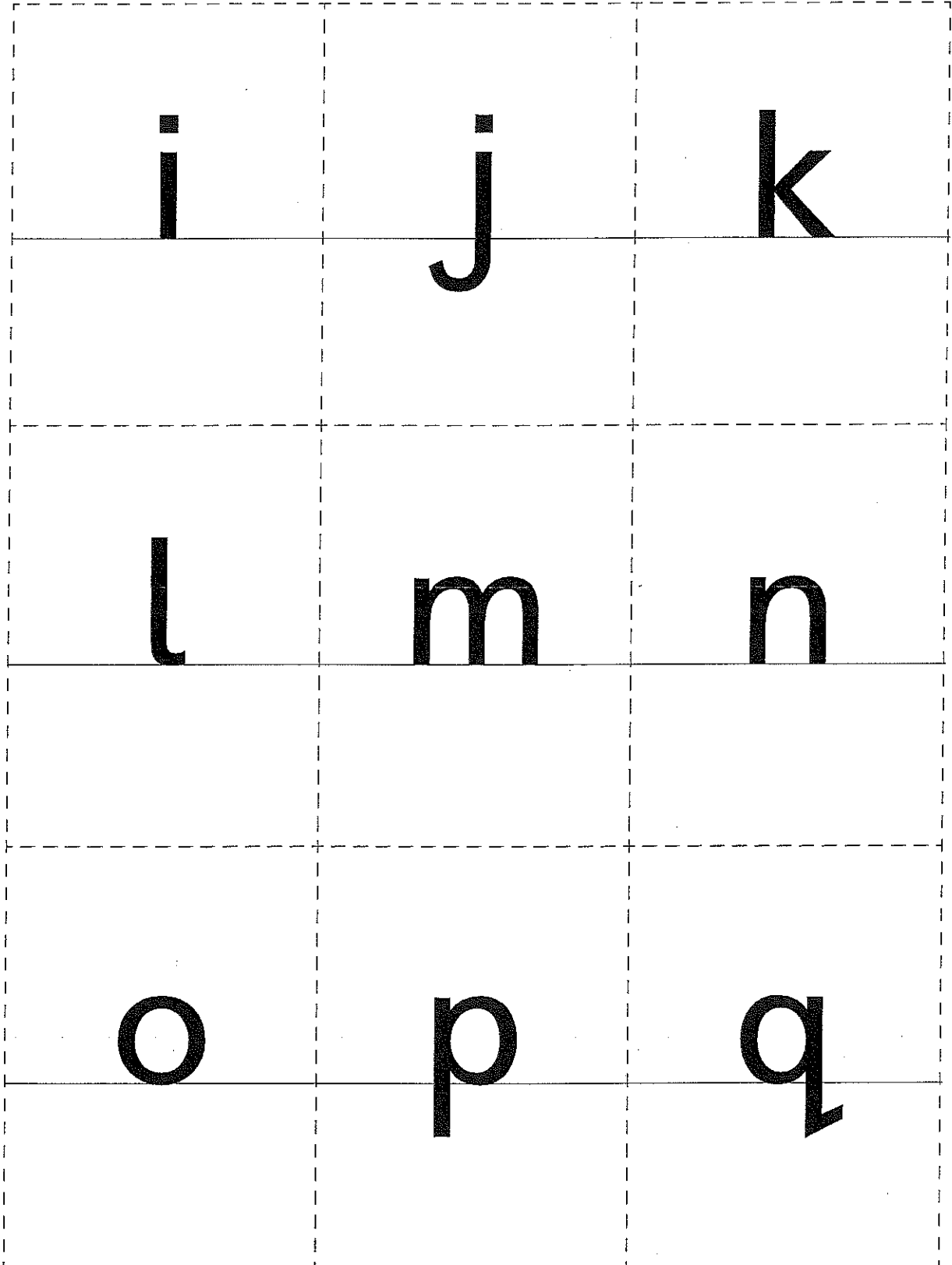
f

g

h

1.8 Lower-case letters i-q

Lower-case letters for you to cut out and use.



1.9 Lower-case letters r-z

Lower-case letters for you to cut out and use.

r

s

t

u

v

w

x

y

z