



The 40 Dolch pre-primer (pre-K) words in the order the sounds are taught. Plain words can be sounded out once their stage is in; a heart word has one part that does not play fair, tinted with a heart over it. Nothing here needs drilling at four: tick a word when your child reads it on their own.

1 • Short-vowel words

After SATPIN and the rest of the alphabet: CVC words with a, i, o, e, u

☐ in ☐ it ☐ up ☐ big ☐ can ☐ not ☐ red ☐ run
☐ a

Heart words for stage 1

Start these alongside the short-vowel words

☐ i ☐ the ☐ is ☐ to ☐ you ☐ said ☐ come
☐ one ☐ two ☐ here

2 • Digraphs, blends and doubles

After sh, ch, th, wh, ck, ng, consonant blends and -ll

☐ and ☐ help ☐ jump

Heart words for stage 2

Once digraphs, blends and doubles are in

☐ where ☐ find ☐ little

3 • Vowel at the end says its name

After digraphs, before vowel teams: go, he, me

☐ go ☐ we ☐ me

4 • Vowel teams, bossy r, magic e and y

The silent e in make and ride is the magic-e pattern, not a heart

☐ see ☐ three ☐ look ☐ play ☐ down ☐ yellow
☐ blue ☐ away ☐ funny ☐ my ☐ for ☐ make

Before kindergarten: letter sounds first, then blending. If your child learns any of these by heart, make it I, the, to, you and is; they are in almost every picture book. Point at the word during a read-aloud, find it again the next night, two minutes and stop. Luvinci's read-aloud stories light up each word as it is said.



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