

Reception



Progress checks

Reception

Reception

English

Autumn term



1

What is the first sound in this word?



cat



1 mark

2

What is the last sound in this word?



dog



1 mark

3

What does this word say?



in

1 mark

4

What is the first letter in the alphabet?

a

c

b



1 mark

Reception Progress checks

5

What does the word 'ball' begin with?



ball



1 mark

6

How many sounds in the word 'cat'?



cat



1 mark

7

What is the last sound in 'book'?



book



1 mark

8

What is the final sound in 'bin'?



bin



1 mark

Reception Progress checks

9

Do 'ball' and 'tall' rhyme?

ball tall

YES

NO

☐

1 mark

10

Do 'bat' and 'bin' rhyme?

bat bin

YES

NO

☐

1 mark

11

Do 'should' and 'sheep' start with the same sound?

should
sheep

YES

NO

☐

1 mark

12

Do 'sheep' and 'beep' start with the same sound?

sheep
beep

YES

NO

☐

1 mark

13

Can you circle the letters in the word 'fox'?



f e o t x

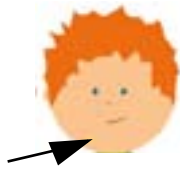
☐

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

14

What is the first sound in 'chin'?



chin



1 mark

15

What is the first sound in 'ship'?



ship



1 mark

16

What is the last letter in the alphabet?

x y z



1 mark

17

What do the bears eat for breakfast in the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears?



1 mark

Reception Progress checks



18

Who comes to the bears' house?

☐

1 mark

19

Whose porridge gets eaten by a greedy girl because it's "just right"?

☐

1 mark

20

What does the word 'bear' begin with?

☐

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

Answers

Reception English, Autumn term

A lot of work in Reception literacy is around learning to read using phonics, as well as looking at and enjoying stories. The most important thing is to get into good habits, where books are read and shared together regularly without any stress or pressure.

Work through this 'test' with your child.
Allow 10-20 minutes to complete it.

1. **C**
Sometimes a sound can be more than one letter (/ck/, for example), but in this case it is simply one.
2. **G**
3. **In**
If they get stuck say the two sounds together and then blend to make the word.
4. **A**
5. **B**
Breaking words down into sounds is an important part of learning to read. The first step is working out what the initial sound in a word is.
6. **3**
This question is asking your child to count the sounds. This will involve them saying each sound carefully and counting, a great step in learning to read.
7. **K**
Usually harder than finding the initial sound. Say the word with them, emphasising the 'k'.
8. **/n/**
9. **Yes**
10. **No.**
Children can confuse rhyme with alliteration (words beginning with the same sounds) so this may trick them.
11. **Yes**
12. **No**
13. **F o x.**
Help them to sound the word out and work out which letters make the sounds.
14. **Ch**
This is a sound they'll start to learn about in Reception.
15. **Sh**
Another sound to be tackled in Reception phonics!
16. **Z**
Sing the alphabet song together and note which letter comes last.

Answers continued

Reception English, Autumn term

17. Porridge

In Reception children will begin to talk about the stories they read in class and 'traditional tales' (or fairy tales as you might know them!) will most likely form a part of this.

18. Goldilocks

They'll be getting used to talking about events that happen in stories.

19. Baby bear's porridge is

eaten by Goldilocks

Your child might enjoy retelling more of the story with you, or choosing other stories they know well and 'reading' to you!

20. B

Many teachers link in phonics work with the stories and books they're using with the class.

Note for parents:

Children really do learn to read at such varying rates that you shouldn't worry about their progress at all at this stage, so long as you're instilling a love of story and books. Most children will have started some phonics learning at school by the end of the first term of the Reception year and so should have covered much of what is in this 'test'. As long as they are scoring over 10 there really isn't any need for concern.

Revise any English topics your Reception child finds tricky with our Learning Journey worksheets:
www.theschoolrun.com/learning-journey

Reception



Progress checks

Reception

Reception

English

Spring term



1

Circle the picture that begins with a 'sh' sound.


☐

1 mark

2

What does this tricky word say?



are

☐

1 mark

3

What does this tricky word say?



was

☐

1 mark

4

What is the middle sound in 'bin'?



bin



☐

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

5

Can you write down two vowels?



1 mark

6

What is the first sound in 'church'?



church



1 mark

7

How many phonemes are there in 'cat'?



cat



1 mark

8

Three words will be read to you. Can you write them on the lines below?

9

10



1 mark

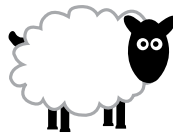
1 mark

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

11

Circle the word with the /ee/ sound in it.


☐

1 mark

12

Can you think of a rhyming word for 'jam'?

jam



☐

1 mark

13

Can you think of a rhyming word for 'shop'?

shop



☐

1 mark

14

Can you read this word?



dress

☐

1 mark

15

What is the first sound in 'vet'?

vet



☐

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

16

How many phonemes in 'child'?

child



1 mark

17

Can you fill in the missing word?



t _ _ bus

1 mark

18

Can you read this word?



night

1 mark

19

Can you think of another word with 'igh' in it?

igh



1 mark

20

How many phonemes are there in your name?



1 mark

Reception Progress checks

Answers

Reception English, Spring term

Now your child has started their 'learning to read' journey they're likely to be learning about new sounds all the time. Help them by sounding words out together in stories but make sure you encourage their love of books by having some story time which is free of any pressure for them to read. Keeping motivation high is key to success!

Work through this 'test' with your child.

Allow around 15 minutes to complete it.

1. **Ship**

Segmenting words into their phonemes (sounds) is an important part of Reception literacy.

2. **Are**

It's important for children to learn that, whilst phonics is helpful, some words don't follow a pattern and we simply have to learn how to spell them. Such words are usually referred to as 'tricky words'.

3. **Was**

Another commonly-used 'tricky word' to learn!

4. **/i/ in bin**

Working out the middle sound in a word can be trickier than finding the first or last sound so your child may need you to help them say each word slowly.

5. **A e i o u**

They will be learning about vowels at some point this year.

6. **/Ch/**

This is a sound they will have covered in their phonics work at school by now.

7. **3: /c/ /a/ /t/**

Getting them used to breaking words into phonemes helps with both reading and writing.

8, 9, 10. **Read out the words 'fuss', 'put' and 'beep'.**

They will be continuing to learn to read and write CVC (consonant vowel consonant words), as well as sounds like /ss/ and words with vowel sounds made up of two letters.

11. **Sheep**

Say each word with them if they get stuck, emphasising the /ee/ sound in 'sheep'.

12. **Any word rhyming with 'jam'.**

The power of getting children to love rhyme shouldn't be underestimated - it can help with so many future literacy skills.

13. **Any word rhyming with 'shop' ('chop', 'hop', etc.).**

14. **Dress**

Help them to sound out the word by drawing a little dot under each sound. Get them to press the dot and say the sound.

Answers continued

Reception English, Spring term

15. **V**

Throughout Reception year they will focus on CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words and initial sounds as part of their phonics work.

16. **4**

17. **The**

Another one of those tricky words!

18. **Night**

The 'igh' sound is really tricky but one they'll come across

in phonics in Reception and Y1.

19. **Any other 'igh' word.**

20. The number of phonemes in their name. It's great to get them thinking about individual sounds that make up words.

Revise any English topics your Reception child finds tricky with our Learning Journey worksheets:
www.theschoolrun.com/learning-journey

Reception



Progress checks

Reception

Reception

English

Summer term



1

Write a sentence.



☐

1 mark

2

Give instructions to explain how to get dressed and ask a grown-up to write them for you.



☐

1 mark

3

Two words will be read to you. Can you write them on the lines below?

4



☐

1 mark

☐

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

5

Do you think this book is fiction or non-fiction?



☐

1 mark

6

What would you find out about on page 31 of this book?

page

- 30. Cats
- 31. Dogs
- 32. Elephants
- 33. Monkeys



☐

1 mark

7

Say (or sing!) the alphabet.



a b c

☐

1 mark

8

What's the first letter of the alphabet? Can you write it in lower case and upper case?

9



☐

1 mark

☐

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

10

Write a small letter 'E':



1 mark

11

Write a capital letter 'h'.



1 mark

12

Who are the main characters in the story of The Three Little Pigs?



1 mark

13

What happens at the end of Cinderella?





1 mark

Reception Progress checks

14

This is a buzzy...



1 mark

15

Can you think of a rhyme for 'book'?



1 mark

16

Name 3 vowels.



1 mark

17

Circle the word that rhymes with 'man'.



1 mark

18

Three words will be read to you. Can you write them on the lines below?

19

20



1 mark 1 mark

1 mark

Reception Progress checks

Answers

Reception English, Summer term

What an amazing year Reception has been. Your child has probably made some giant leaps in their literacy work, most notably, perhaps, in terms of beginning to decode sounds and read words.

Work through this 'test' with your child.
Allow around 20 minutes to complete it.

1. **A simple sentence with a capital letter and a full stop.**
Have them read it to you to check it makes sense.
2. **Clear and well-thought out verbal instructions.**
3. **The**
One of the high frequency words for Reception.
4. **She**
Another high frequency word.
5. **Non-fiction**
They may call them 'information' or 'fact' books. Recognising the difference between fiction and non-fiction and being able to describe the differences is an important objective in literacy.
6. **Dogs**
7. **The alphabet said (or sung) accurately.**
8. **A**
They'll have been introduced to capital (upper case) and small (lower case) letters and may have
- worked on matching capital to small letters.
9. **a**
10. **e**
11. **H**
12. **The three little pigs and the wolf**
Retelling familiar stories is a Reception literacy objective.
13. **Cinderella marries the Prince.**
14. **Bee**
15. **Any 'book' rhyme**
They should be pretty good at finding rhyming words by now. It doesn't matter if they use a nonsense word, it's about getting them to hear the sound.
16. **3 of a e i o u.**
17. **Can**
- 18, 19, 20. **Read out the words 'go', 'look', 'press'.**

Revise any English topics your Reception child finds tricky with our Learning Journey worksheets:
www.theschoolrun.com/learning-journey