

Why learn to read words on sight?

Research shows that learning just 13 of the most frequently used words will enable children to read 25% of any text.

Learning 100 high frequency words gives a beginner reader access to 50% of virtually any text, whether a children's book or a newspaper report.

When you couple sight recognition of common and tricky words with knowledge of phonics, that's when a child's reading can really take off...

Phase 2

| Decodable words | | Tricky words |
|-----------------|------|--------------|
| a | had | the |
| an | back | to |
| as | and | I |
| at | get | no |
| if | big | go |
| in | him | into |
| is | his | |
| it | not | |
| of | got | |
| off | up | |
| on | mum | |
| can | but | |
| dad | put | |

Phase 3

| Decodable words | | Tricky words | |
|-----------------|------|--------------|-----|
| will | see | you | he |
| that | for | they | she |
| this | now | all | we |
| then | down | are | me |
| them | look | my | be |
| with | too | her | was |

Phase 4

| Decodable words | Tricky words | |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| went | said | were |
| it's | have | there |
| from | like | little |
| children | so | one |
| just | do | when |
| help | some | out |
| | come | what |

Phase 5

Note that some of the words that were tricky in earlier phases become fully decodable in Phase 5

| Decodable words | | Tricky Words |
|------------------------|------|---------------------|
| don't | day | oh |
| old | made | their |
| I'm | came | people |
| by | make | Mr |
| time | here | Mrs |
| house | saw | looked |
| about | very | called |
| your | | asked |
| | | could |