

CVC Phonics Picture Bingo

12-minute suggested lesson | Reception and early readers | 1-4 players

Practise oral blending with familiar picture words, then check decoding separately.

Learning goals

- Blend a familiar spoken word and locate its picture.
- Read a selected word using already-taught letter-sound correspondences without a picture cue.

Prepare

- Print the two-page card pack on A4 landscape and cut out the four cards. Keep the caller sheet and counters ready.
- Check each word against your phonics sequence. Prepare separate printed word slips for the reading check.

Card pack: A4 landscape, 100% scale. This teacher guide: A4 portrait. Use age-appropriate counters.

Teach and play

0-3 min / Agree the picture names

Show Cat, Dog, Sun, Pig, Hat, Bus, Cup and Fox. Say each whole word. Explain that Fox is your extension word if pupils are ready for x.

3-5 min / Demonstrate blending

Model the sounds for c-a-t, blend to cat and find its picture. Give out cards, mark FREE and demonstrate a row of three.

5-9 min / Play a listening round

Shuffle the caller tiles. Segment a suitable word, blend it and let pupils match the picture. For Fox, say the whole word or explicitly model all four sounds. Record each call.

9-12 min / Check word reading

Choose two words with taught correspondences. Show separate word slips without pictures and invite pupils to blend. Use this reading response, rather than a bingo win, to plan follow-up practice.

Quick learning check

Can the pupil blend the printed word without relying on its picture? Keep this separate from listening and picture recognition.

CVC Phonics Picture Bingo

Caller prompts and teaching notes | Keep beside the caller sheet

Start with direct labels. Keep called tiles aside. Mark FREE before play; check a row, column or diagonal of three against the call record. All cards share eight items: line wins may tie and full-house games finish together.

Eight labels - matched to the card pack

Cat	Say the sounds for c-a-t. Blend: cat.
Dog	Say the sounds for d-o-g. Blend: dog.
Sun	Say the sounds for s-u-n. Blend: sun.
Pig	Say the sounds for p-i-g. Blend: pig.
Hat	Say the sounds for h-a-t. Blend: hat.
Bus	Say the sounds for b-u-s. Blend: bus.
Cup	Say the sounds for c-u-p. Blend: cup.
Fox	Extension: /f/ /o/ /k/ /s/. Blend: fox; four sounds.

Teaching note

The existing pack includes Fox. It has three letters but four phonemes (/f/ /o/ /k/ /s/), because x represents /k/ /s/. Use it as an extension rather than a three-phoneme example. If your lesson requires only three-phoneme CVC words, create a custom set with a replacement such as mat; do not describe this fixed pack as a strict three-phoneme set.

Support / extension

Support: Use direct whole-word calls and model one blend at a time. Choose pupils' next words through your phonics programme, rather than assuming every label is already decodable.

Extend: Ask pupils to blend a picture-free word slip, then find its picture. Contrast familiar pairs such as cat and hat using additional slips.

Further reading: Department for Education: The reading framework (gov.uk, The reading framework).