



HYTHE BAY

Church of England
Primary School and
Children's Centre

High Frequency Words 1

High Frequency Words

What are High Frequency Words?

High frequency words are quite simply those words which occur most frequently in written material, for example, "and", "the", "as" and "it". They are often words that have little meaning on their own, but they do contribute a great deal to the meaning of a sentence. Some of the high frequency words can be sounded out using basic phonic rules, e.g. "it" is an easy word to read using phonics. However, many of the high frequency words are not phonically regular and are therefore hard to read in the early stages. These words are sometimes called tricky words, sight words or camera words. In addition to being difficult to sound out, most of the high frequency words have a rather abstract meaning which is hard to explain to a child. It's easy to learn words like "cat" and "house" because they can easily be related to a real object or a picture, but how do you represent the word "the" or "of"?

Why learn the High Frequency Words?

Researchers believe that learning just 13 of the most frequently used words will enable children to read 25% of any text (OK, that 25% wouldn't make much sense on its own, but it's a very good start).

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 immediate recognition of the high frequency sight words with a good knowledge of basic phonics, that's when a child's reading can really take off.

Letters and sounds: High Frequency Words Checklist

(bold=tricky words)

Phase 2

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

Phase 3

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

Phase 4

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

Phase 5

don't	old	I'm	by	time	house
about	your	day	made	came	make
here	saw	very	put	oh	their
people	Mr	Mrs	looked	called	asked
could					

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

tap

sap

pat

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

pip

sip

tip

sit

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

nap

pan

pin

tan

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

man

am

mat

map

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

dad

and

dip

did

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

tag

gag

gas

pig

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

got

pot

God

pop

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

can

cop

cap

cod

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

kid

kit

Kim

Ken

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

kick

sock

ticket

pocket

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

get

pet

peg

neck

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

cup

mum

mug

sunset

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

rim

rocket

carrot

rat

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

had

hot

has

hug

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

back

bad

bib

bucket

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

fit

fun

fig

if

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

puff

cuff

off

huff

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

let

lip

leg

laptop

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

bell

doll

sell

fill

This sound is....

www.PSDgraphics.com



Words with this sound are

mass

less

kiss

fusspot

These are the tricky words.

They cannot be sounded out

the

to

go

no

I