Phonics: the 'a' sound

Phase 2 · Reception to Year 1

Name: _____

Read each word aloud, sounding it out. The made-up words are the real test — they cannot be guessed from memory, only sounded out.

REAL WORDS

at	am	an	and	cat

MADE-UP WORDS

ab	ap	blaft	plasp	swag	fak
sask	framp	slalp	rack	glad	glask

These are not real words. A child who has memorised word shapes cannot guess them — they can only be sounded out. Half the words in the Year 1 phonics screening check are made up, for exactly this reason.

WRITE IT

Write 'a' five times. Then write three real words that use it.