Phonics: the 'ear' sound

Phase 3 · 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

ear	hear	near	year	fear

MADE-UP WORDS

vear	zear	vearlp	grearv	searsk	mearf
stearp	swearl	dearsp	drearn	snearz	fearft

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