Phonics: the 'u' 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

up	under	bus	mud	cup

MADE-UP WORDS

ub	ug	nun	frulp	blunt	trum
prusp	bruf	dull	prut	lult	bluf

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