Phonics: the 'z' 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

zip	**zoo**	**zig**	**buzz**

MADE-UP WORDS

zan	**zem**	**zim**	**nez**	**zuck**	**foz**
zalt	**brez**	**zef**	**ziv**	**tez**	**ziz**

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