

# How to Pronounce the Sounds

Not all kids can pronounce the sounds by copying what they hear, they need explicit instruction. In this next part of the video I will explain how to articulate the sounds. This will only be useful if you are a non-native English speaker, or if your child is struggling to form the sounds. So please skip as needed.

A - Open mouth, jaw and tongue are down.

B - Your lips together before you explode out a little air. Voice box on. You should be able to feel your voice box vibrate when you say it correctly. Keep this really crisp and short.

C - This is a voiceless sound, so your voicebox is off. It's just air. c, not cuh. Lips slightly apart. The middle of your tongue restricts the airflow against the roof of your mouth to make the c sound. Sometimes "c" is pronounced like "s" when it follows an I, E or Y, but it's best to keep it very simple at the start and just teach c as c.

D - Tip of your tongue touches above your top teeth. Explode out a little air. It's a voiced sound, so your voice box is on. Keep this short and crisp - d.

E - Mouth open, jaw down, tip of the tongue resting just behind bottom teeth. The very back of your tongue is slightly high and shapes the airflow. Voice box on.

F - Top teeth touch your bottom lip. Voiceless sound. It's a continuous sound, so fffff, not fuh.

G - Mouth open. Tip of your tongue is resting. The back of your tongue restricts the airflow. Voice box on.

H - Air comes out of your open mouth, like a panting dog. Voice box off.

I - Mouth open, tip of the tongue resting behind bottom teeth. Very back of your tongue is high and shapes the airflow. Voice box on.

J - Lips are open, the front of your tongue starts up against the hard roof of your mouth, and the tongue releases down with the air. Voice box on.

K - this is pronounced exactly the same as "c".

L - Tip of the tongue touches the roof of the mouth behind the top teeth, and stays there. This is a sound, so llllll, not luh.

M - This is a nasal sound, so lips are together and air comes out the nose, like a hum. Voice box on. Continuous sound, so mmmm, not muh.

N - Same as "m" but the mouth is open and the tip of the tongue touches the roof of the mouth.

O - Lips are round, jaw and tongue are down. The very back of your tongue shapes the airflow.

P - Like "b" except it's voiceless, so voice box off. Just a puff of air, you can feel it with your hand.

Qu - this is just a combination of k and w. It's best to keep this voiceless. qu

R - Lips are narrow and wide. Jaw is nearly closed. Tongue is bunched up at the back of the mouth. This is a continuous sound. There are two ways to form this sound with your tongue, so it's a bit complex. If your child struggles with it, try starting with the l or z sound and have them pull their tongue back, up and tight until it makes the r sound. There are full dedicated videos on YouTube which might also help.

S - The sides of your tongue touch your top teeth. Lips nearly closed. Voiceless and continuous.

T - This is another plosive. The tip of your tongue starts by touching the roof of your mouth before releasing down with the little explosion of air. It's voiceless, so t, not tuh.

U - Lips slightly rounded, jaw down and the very back of your tongue is low and shapes the flow of air. Voice box on.

V - This is exactly like "f" except your voice box is on. So top lip touches bottom teeth. Tongue is resting.

W - Lips make a circle. Tip of the tongue in the middle of the mouth. Back of the tongue is low in the mouth. Voice box on.

X - This is a combination of k and s. So together, it's ks. This is a voiceless sound.

Y - Mouth is a little bit wide. The whole tongue is high in the mouth, constricting the airflow against the roof of the mouth before releasing. Voice box on.

Z - Tip of the tongue is almost touching the roof of the mouth. The rest of your tongue forces the air to go through this small gap. Continuous sound.