

Introducing Phonics and Letter Sounds

Introducing new phonics and letter sounds for non-native English speakers is a unique challenge as the teacher may be supporting students from a diverse range of backgrounds and languages.

In this tip, Yasmin Vasi details how she engages students to discover key sounds through a physically active and fun discovery of classroom objects.

Q Introducing new sounds/letters

Step 1: Introduce the new phonic sound and letter(s).

Step 2: Pair students up and instruct them to create the phonic sound of the week using various objects from the classroom.

Step 3: Instruct your students that they have 15 minutes to complete the task, set and clearly display a timer with a 15 minute countdown to engage and motivate them to explore and correctly identify objects with the matching phonic.

Step 4: Once the time is up, students are then given the opportunity to display their objects and how they have creatively found the correct phonic sound in the objects around them.

Step 5: Take photos of the students with the items, displaying these on a 'word wall' to promote praise and clear examples of the identified phonic sound.