

Quick Check – Initial Code



Word chains are a list of words that use known graphemes and systematically increase in complexity. This approach gives repeated opportunities to build mastery of the code.

If your school does not provide spelling lists that follow a systematic sequence, then you can use the free word chains developed by the incredible UK educator, **Alice Frendo**. Alice is a Dyslexia Assessor and Teacher and has developed **Dyslexic Logic**, a support service full of high-quality resources available free for parents and teachers: dyslexiclogic.com/blending

To determine which word list your child should start on, complete the **Powerful Vowels Quick Check**. Ask your child to use the grapheme tiles in the kit to represent the phonemes or words you read aloud in each skill test. It's important that you say the sounds and words clearly.

Phonics knowledge: Initial code graphemes

	Correct	Incorrect	
a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/a/ like ant
e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/e/ like egg
i	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/i/ like insect
o	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/o/ like on
u	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/u/ like up

b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/b/ like boy
c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/c/ like cat
d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/d/ like dog
f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/f/ like funny
g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/g/ like girl
h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/h/ like happy
j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/j/ like jump
k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/k/ like king
l	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/l/ like love
m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/m/ like mum
n	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/n/ like now
p	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/p/ like pool
q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/g/ like girl
r	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/r/ like run

	Correct	Incorrect	
s	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/s/ like sun
t	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/t/ like top
v	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/v/ like vet
w	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/w/ like water
x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/x/ like box
y	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/y/ like yes
z	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/z/ like zoo

ch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/ch/ like chip
sh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/sh/ like shop
th	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/th/ like thing
qu	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/qu/ like quick
ng	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/ng/ like sing
ff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/ff/ like puff
ll	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/ll/ like hill
ss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/ss/ like mess
zz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/zz/ like buzz
ck	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/ck/ like back



Any errors?

No

Move on to next skill test.



Yes

All these graphemes and phonemes must be taught explicitly before asking a child to read or write them in words. Ideally this happens in the classroom by the end of kindergarten.

If your child made only a few errors (up to 10%), this tool can help fill the knowledge gaps. If they are missing more than a few (over 10%), you should speak to their class teacher.

Blending skills: Word level

vc

	Correct	Incorrect
an	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
if	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
on	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any errors?

No

Move on to next skill test.



Yes

Start with Powerful Little Words List.

cvc

	Correct	Incorrect
tan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
pen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
rip	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
pot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
hug	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any errors?

No

Move on to next skill test.



Yes

Start with Dyslexic Logic's Word Chain 1 and 2.

cvc with consonant digraphs

	Correct	Incorrect
chat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
rush	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
hang	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
miss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any errors?

No

Move on to next skill test.



Yes

Start with Dyslexic Logic's Word Chain 3.

ccvc with consonant digraphs

	Correct	Incorrect
swam	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
clip	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
flop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
plug	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
stack	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any errors?

No

Move on to next skill test.



Yes

Start with Dyslexic Logic's Word Chain 4.

cvcc and ccvcc with consonant digraphs

	Correct	Incorrect
rust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
sink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
chest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
bunch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
crest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any errors?

No

It looks like your child has mastered the initial code!



Yes

Start with Dyslexic Logic's Word Chain 5.