

PHONICS & DECODING

Mini-checklist — quick classroom reference card

FLUENCY FUEL

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Systematic, explicit phonics instruction helps students map sounds to letters and attack unfamiliar words with confidence.

Weekly Look-Fors

- ☐ Sound-spelling mapping with Elkonin boxes or grids
- ☐ Blending by analogy using known word families
- ☐ Multisensory letter formation (trace, sky-write, tap)
- ☐ Daily decodable text with taught patterns only
- ☐ 10-15 minutes of explicit phonics every day
- ☐ Quick check: can the student decode 5 new pattern words?

Quick Tip

Spend 10-15 minutes daily on explicit phonics. Brief, distributed practice beats one long weekly lesson.

Notes
