

First Words Series

Aims

- To devise a series of eight books using only very simple words made up of the 19 letters introduced in Phonic Phase 2.
- To provide suitable age-related reading material for children to successfully read their first books (by themselves) in the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- To provide material that does not contain capital letters, i.e. books 1-5.
- To introduce some very common words. These are '*a, on, in, and, the, big, off, not, his, I, am, can*'.
- To ensure that '*I*' is the only capital letter used in the word '*I*' and it is not used as a capital letter of any other word, e.g. '*It*'.
- to begin sentences only with the phrases '*I am*' or '*I can*' and to use sentence structure consistently after verbs have been introduced in book 6.

Book	Title	Small letters introduced	No. of words
1	<i>a hat</i>	a c e h n o r s t	35
2	<i>a bag</i>	b i g d	36
3	<i>bats</i>	l f	30
4	<i>mad hens</i>	mu	42
5	<i>kitten</i>	k p	33
6	<i>I am a rat</i>		41
7	<i>I am mad</i>		40
8	<i>I can dig</i>		39

N.B.

The letter '*s*' is pronounced /z/ in the words '*hens, frogs, eggs*', but there is no intention to either point this out to children, or to explain it phonically; '*s*' simply means more than one in the context of the books.

Book 1: *a hat*

Phase 2: a on hat cat rat hen (cats)

Book 2: *a bag*

Phase 2: a on in cat rat dog hot bag big (cats)

Book 3: *bats*

Phase 2: a on off bat dog log and (bats)

Phase 4: frog (frogs)

Book 4: *mad hens*

Phase 2: a on in rat not mad big hut and eggs hens

Tricky: the

Book 5: *kitten*

Phase 2: a on cat pan pen his cup hot red bed and kitten

Tricky: the

Book 6: *I am a rat*

Phase 2: a on in am bag rat run dig hop rip can cat sit and

Tricky: the I

Book 7: *I am mad*

Phase 2: a on in am bat log mud hop can sad mad

Phase 4: frog

Tricky: the I

Book 8: *I can dig*

Phase 2: a in am of up dog dig rag tub can mud and pull full

Phase 3: wet

Tricky: the I

