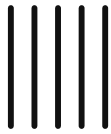


Mouth Shape Cards: How to Read Them

1 / 9

For the grown-up. The shape shows where the lips, teeth and tongue go. The marks under it show how the air and the voice come out.



Straight lines

Air flows out and your voice is off. You can hold the sound for as long as you have breath.

On: f, th as in thin, sh



Lines that end in a puff

The air is stopped, then pops out in one short burst. You cannot hold these sounds.

On: p, b, t, d, k, g, ch, j



Zigzags above the lips

The sound comes out through the nose. Pinch your nose while you say it and the sound stops.

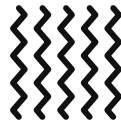
On: m, n, ng



One zigzag

Just the voice, with no rush of air. Every vowel is made this way.

On: w, y, l, r and the vowels



Zigzag lines

Your voice is on. Put a hand on your throat and you can feel it buzz.

On: v, th as in this, zh



One line

One thin, narrow stream of air, through teeth that are almost closed. On z it zigzags: the voice is on.

On: s, z



Lines that fan out

A soft, open breath, like fogging up a window. Your voice is off.

On: h



Two mouths and an arrow

The mouth moves from the first shape to the second while you say the sound.

On: the long a, i, oi, ou and yoo, and the vowels with an r except the one in her



A pointer

Look here. On th, the tip of the tongue sits between the teeth, just past them.

On: th

- The mouths are drawn the way you see a face across a table. Sit face to face, or side by side at a mirror, and copy the shape together.
- Each card shows the sound as a dictionary writes it, a word it is in, and in the top corner the symbol a speech-language pathologist uses.



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Mouth Shape Cards: Consonants (1 of 4)

2 / 9

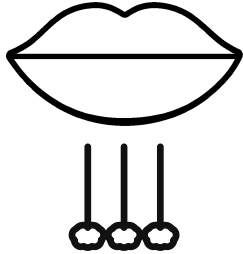
Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



p

as in pen

/p/

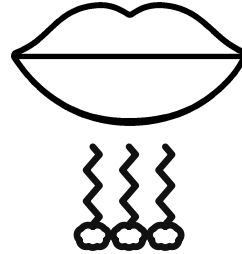


voice off

b

as in bat

/b/

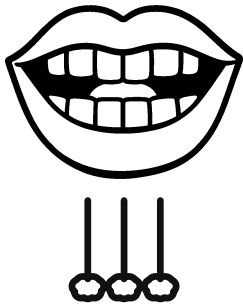


voice on

t

as in top

/t/

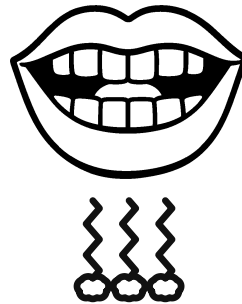


voice off

d

as in dog

/d/

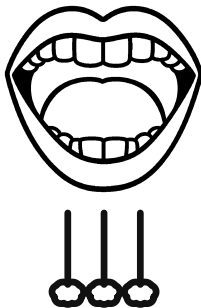


voice on

k

as in cat

/k/

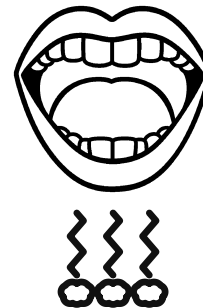


voice off

g

as in goat

/g/



voice on



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Mouth Shape Cards: Consonants (2 of 4)

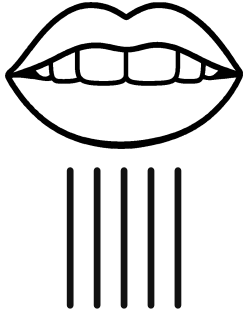
3 / 9

Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



f

as in fan

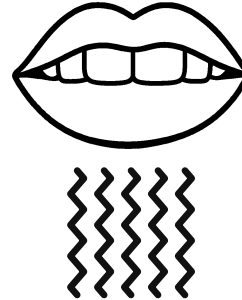


/f/

voice off

v

as in van

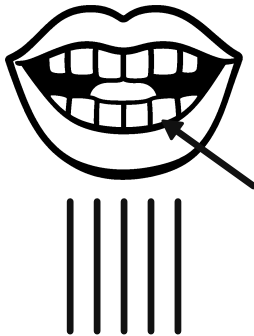


/v/

voice on

th

as in thin

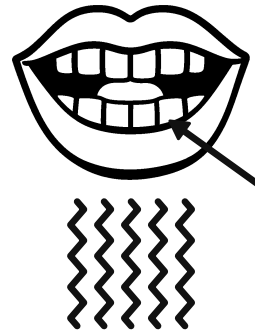


/θ/

voice off

th

as in this

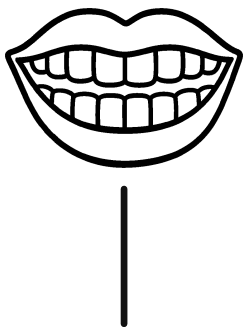


/ð/

voice on

s

as in sun

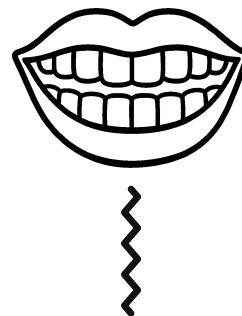


/s/

voice off

z

as in zip



/z/

voice on



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Mouth Shape Cards: Consonants (3 of 4)

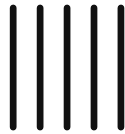
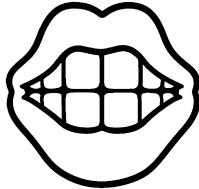
4 / 9

Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



sh

as in ship

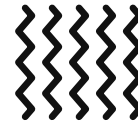
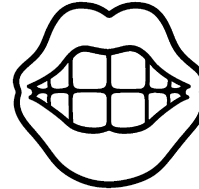


voice off

/ʃ/

zh

as in measure

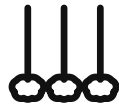
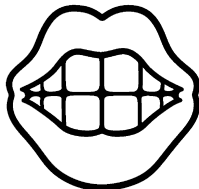


voice on

/ʒ/

ch

as in chin

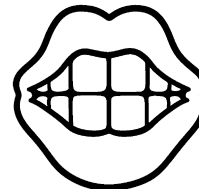


voice off

/tʃ/

j

as in jam

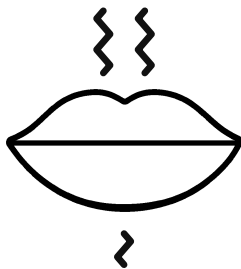


voice on

/dʒ/

m

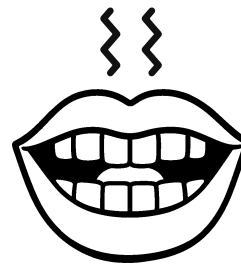
as in map



/m/

n

as in net



/n/



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Mouth Shape Cards: Consonants (4 of 4)

5 / 9

Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



ng

as in ring

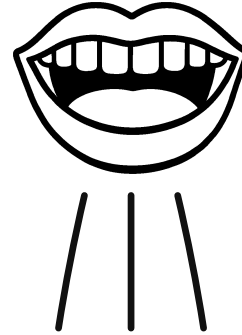
/ŋ/



h

as in hat

/h/

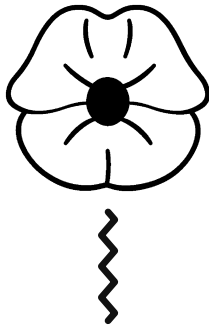


voice off

w

as in wet

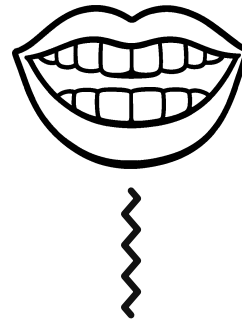
/w/



y

as in yes

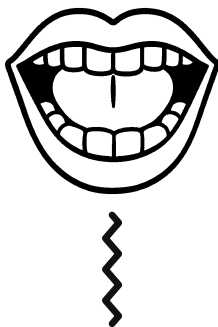
/j/



l

as in leg

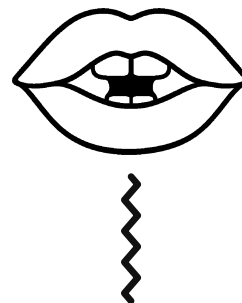
/l/



r

as in run

/r/



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Mouth Shape Cards: Vowels (1 of 4)

6 / 9

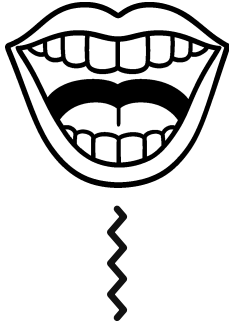
Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



a

as in cat

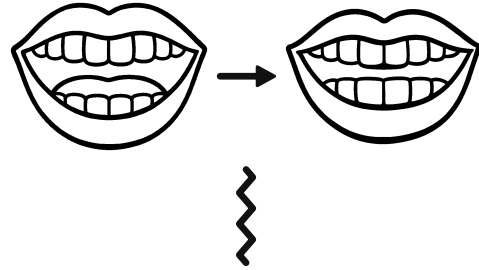
/æ/



ā

as in cake

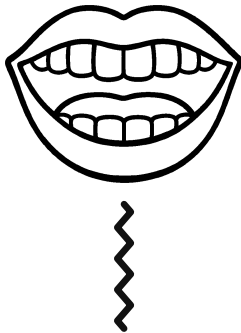
/eɪ/



e

as in bed

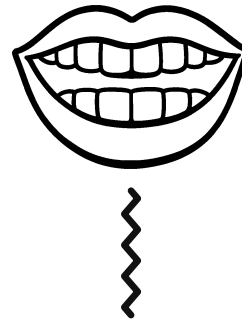
/ɛ/



ē

as in feet

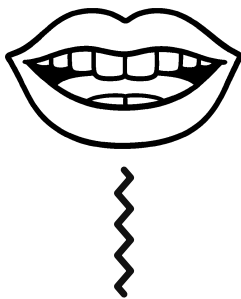
/i/



i

as in sit

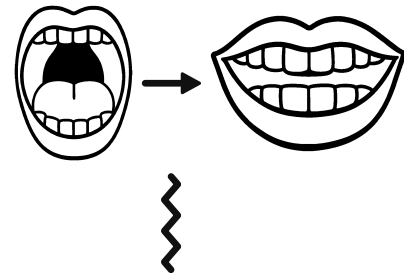
/ɪ/



ī

as in bike

/aɪ/



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Mouth Shape Cards: Vowels (2 of 4)

7 / 9

Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



O

as in hot

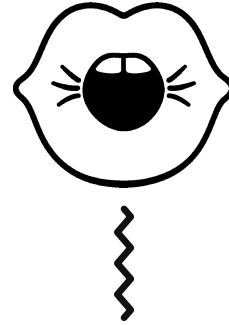
/ɑ/



ō

as in boat

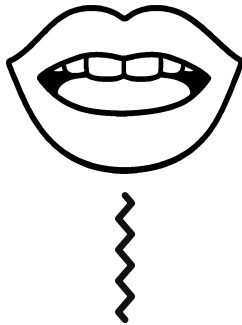
/oʊ/



u

as in cup

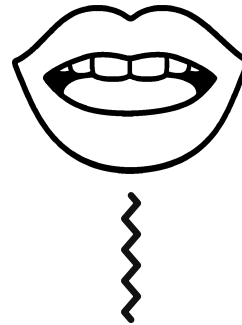
/ʌ/



ə

as in about

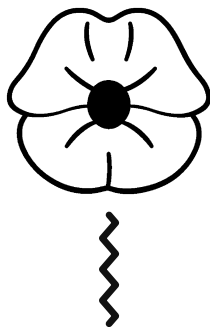
/e/



ü

as in moon

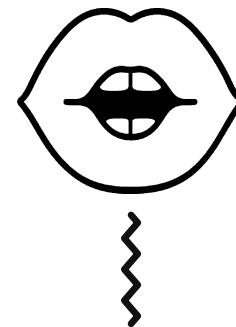
/u/



û

as in book

/ɒ/



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Mouth Shape Cards: Vowels (3 of 4)

8 / 9

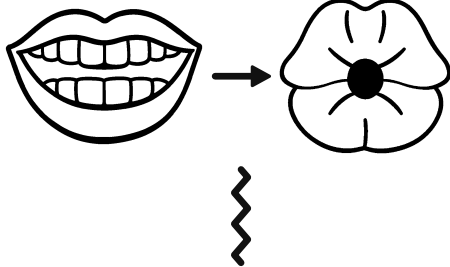
Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



yü

/ju/

as in cute



ò

/ɔ/

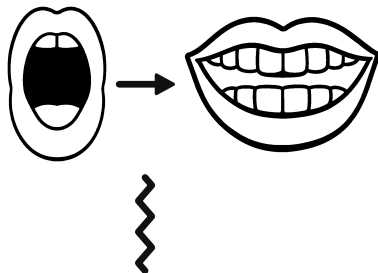
as in fought



òi

/ɔɪ/

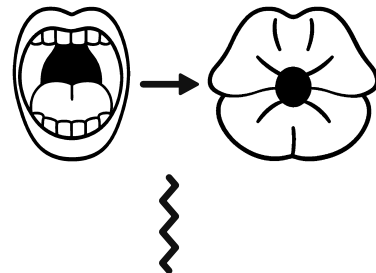
as in boy



aù

/aʊ/

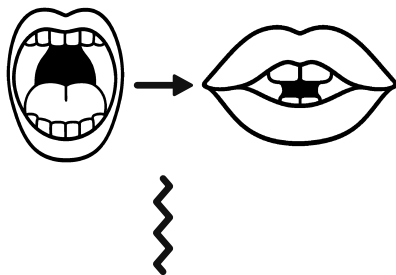
as in now



är

/ɑr/

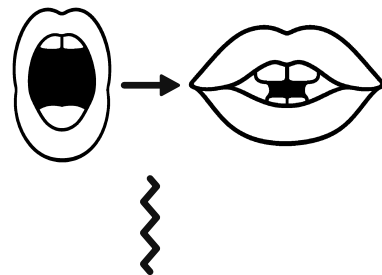
as in car



òr

/ɔr/

as in fork



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Mouth Shape Cards: Vowels (4 of 4)

9 / 9

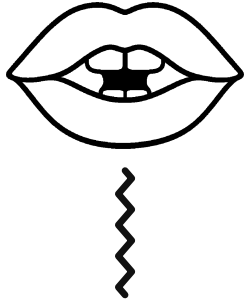
Cut along the lines. Show the shape with your own mouth first, then let your child copy it.



ə

as in her

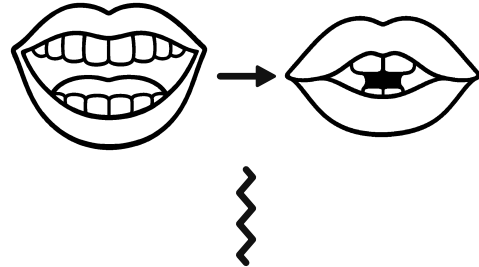
/ɜ:/



e

as in hair

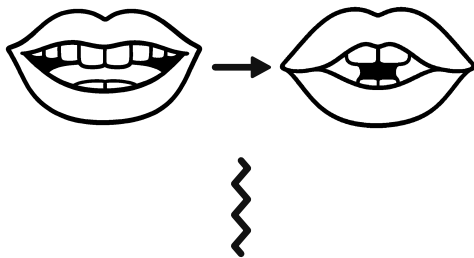
/ɛr/



i

as in ear

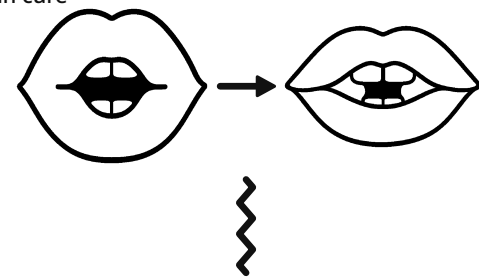
/ɪr/



u

as in cure

/ʊr/



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