

Amplify CKLA Tricky Words

“Tricky Words” defined:

In Amplify CKLA, the term Tricky Word refers to a word that cannot be completely decoded using the sound-spelling correspondences that students have been taught so far. In other words, the word is not pronounced quite the way you would expect it to be based on the letters in its printed form, or is not spelled quite the way you would expect based on the sounds in the spoken word.

When introducing these words, the curriculum instructs you to point out which parts are regular and can be blended and which parts are not regular and simply must be remembered. Once a Tricky Word has been introduced in a lesson, the parts of the word that make it tricky will be underlined in the Student Reader and on activity pages until it has been seen around twenty times.

Tricky Word Wall

The curriculum calls for you to create a word wall with Tricky Words, adding to your wall each time a new word is introduced. Tricky Words printed on yellow cards remind students to use caution when reading them. Some of the Tricky Words will become decodable words after students have learned a new spelling for the sound. At this point, change the yellow Tricky Word card to a green card to signal students that they have the “green light” to decode the word. For example, once students learn the new spellings for the underlined “tricky” sounds in the words “he”, “down”, and “when”, these words are no longer considered Tricky Words because students have the sound-spelling knowledge to decode the whole word.

Tricky Words vs. Sight Words

The term *sight word* is often used to describe a common word that students should practice reading and learn to recognize rapidly. At the same time, a sight word may be a Tricky Word. It is necessary to distinguish between words that are genuinely tricky (words like one, two, of, who, and could) and words that are high-frequency but pronounced as expected (words like in, at, on, and up). These decodable high-frequency words are not taught as Tricky Words, since there is actually nothing tricky about them.

The pages that follow show the correlation between Amplify CKLA Tricky Words and the Dolch Sight Word List. They also include words from the Dolch List that are decodable after completing Amplify CKLA units.

By the end of Grade 2, all 220 Dolch Words are either specifically introduced as Tricky Words or can be decoded once students have learned the required sound-spelling correspondences, except the following words: *buy, carry, does, don't, eight, every, four, full, give, into, laugh, pretty, pull, put, together, very, warm, and wash.*

More detailed information about Tricky Words in Amplify CKLA can be found in the following locations:
Kindergarten: Unit 3 Teacher Guide – Appendix B; Grades 1 and 2: Unit 1 Teacher Guide - Appendix A.

Amplify CKLA Tricky words and Dolch Sight Word List

Kindergarten

Tricky words are not introduced until unit 3 in Kindergarten. By the end of Kindergarten, children can read 116 of the 220 Dolch Words (either because they are decodable or have been taught as Tricky Words.)

◆ = words that were introduced as tricky but are now decodable

Unit	Dolch Words decodable at end of the unit	Dolch Words taught as Tricky Words in this unit	Tricky Words taught that are not on the Dolch List
3	am, at, did, got, it	one, two, three	
4	an, and, can, get, had, him, hot, if, in, its, not, on, sit, ten	the, a	
5	ask, big, but, cut, let, ran, red, run, six, up, us, yes	blue, yellow, look	
6	as, best, fast, has, help, his, is, jump, just, must, stop, went	are, I, little	
7	bring, long, much, sing, that, them, then, this, wish, with	down, of, out	
8	black, off, pick, shall, tell, well, will	all, from, funny, was	
9		here, no, once, said, so, there, to, were, what, when, where, which, why	word, says
10	ate, came, five, gave, green, keep, like, made, make, ride, see, sleep, take, those, use	be, by, he, me, my, she, their, they, we, you, your	
	◆ three		

Grade 1

By the end of Grade 1, children can read 153 of the 220 Dolch Words (either because they are decodable or have been taught as Tricky Words.)

◆ = words that were introduced as tricky either in Kindergarten or Grade 1 but are now decodable

Unit	Dolch Words decodable at end of the unit	Dolch Words taught as Tricky Words in this unit	Tricky Words taught in this unit that are not on the Dolch List
1	Review unit. Students will review short vowel decodable words learned throughout Kindergarten.	<p>Review of Kindergarten words: a, all, are, from, here, I, is, no, of, once, one, said, so, the, there, to, two, was, were, what, when, where, which, why</p> <p>Introduced in this unit: do, have, some, who</p>	Review of Kindergarten words: word, says
2	Review unit. Students will review long vowel decodable words learned in Kindergarten.	<p>Review of Kindergarten words: be, by, he, me, my, she, their, they, we, you, your</p>	
3	<p>draw, found, good, our, round, saw, soon, too</p> <p>◆ look, out</p>	<p>Review of Kindergarten word: down</p> <p>Introduced in this unit: because, could, would</p>	baseball, should
4	after, better, far, for, her, never, or, seven, start, under, upon	today	tomorrow, yesterday
5	write	how	picture, (stage)coach,
6	<p>drink, thank, think, white</p> <p>◆ when, which</p>		cow
7	may, play, say		

Grade 2

By the end of Grade 2, children can read 203 of the 220 Dolch Words (either because they are decodable or have been taught as Tricky Words.)

◆ = words that were introduced as tricky in Grade K, 1 or 2 but are now decodable

Unit	Dolch Words decodable at end of the unit	Dolch Words taught as Tricky Words in this unit	Tricky Words taught in this unit that are not on the Dolch List
1		Review of Grades K and 1 words: a, be, could, do, down, from, he, how, me, of, once, one, said, she, the, there, to, was, we, what, where, why, would	Review of Grades K and 1 words: says, should, word
2	before, clean, eat, please, these ◆ here, down,	Review of Grades K and 1 words: all, are, by, go, have, I, my, no, so, some, their, they, were, who, you, your	street
3	both, cold, goes, going, hold, kind, old, open, over ◆ go, I, no, so		
4	always, any, brown, call, fall, find, first, fly, grow, hurt, know, light, live, many, myself, now, only, own, fight, show, small, try, walk ◆ all, be, by, from, funny, he, how, me, my, she, we, why, yellow	been	
5	about, again, around, away, come, done, read, want, work ◆ some	new	
6			Americans, Andrew, bomb, broad, early, Europe, Fort McHenry, Great Britain, imagine, iron, native, shoe, signature, soldier, special, war, Washington, whose