

Sight Words

An internet search will result in multiple ways to explain the meaning of “sight word.” This term usually refers to frequently used words often taught by memorization, such as **the**, **to**, **of**, **and**, **a**, **have**, et cetera.

When teaching phonics, students are encouraged to learn the sounds of letter combinations, rather than memorize the entire word. Many of the frequently used words on most sight word lists can be sounded out and are not necessary to memorize. Therefore, I have not included them as sight words since those letter combinations will be covered later in these phonics steps.

In all First Step Phonics products, sight words are words that don’t follow phonetic rules and must be memorized. You could tackle them in advance using flash cards or teach them as they are encountered. Either way works.

When reading a sentence or book, advanced words (letter combinations above the student’s current level) should be temporarily treated as sight words and memorized until the student gets to that level. For example, some three-letter words are more difficult. The word **and** contains two consonants in a row which is above the consonant-vowel-consonant level. Words such as **cow**, **for**, **out** or **own** have vowel sounds other than short vowels and are also above the consonant-vowel-consonant level with short vowels. Therefore, these words would be flagged as sight words.

Ideally, your student would read only books that use minimum sight words to reduce the possibility of encountering more advanced words that might overwhelm them.

The following page contains a list of sight words.

This is a list of small sight words:

a	go	one
all	has	she
an	he	so
any	his	to
are	I	the
as	is	two
be	me	was
do	no	we
eye	of	you

Here is a list of bigger sight words:

been	friend	should
come	give	some
could	have	want
done	move	would
does	said	

a

as

has

all

be

he

an

do

his

any

eye

I

are

go

is

me

so

we

no

to

you

of

the

been

one

two

come

she

was

could

done

move

would

does

said

friend

should

give

some

have

want