**Alien Words Phonics Check**

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**Notes for teacher**

Be sure to explain to the child that these are not real words. They are alien words spoken by children from another planet. They speak a different language to us.

Encourage the child to sound out the words if they can but to make a real word. Do not just say the sounds of the letters.

If the child finds it too difficult and makes more than 10 consecutive errors, then pause the assessment. However, if they are happy to keep reading, they can do so, it might be useful to do this to give you some idea of how they approach decoding the words. If you do stop, you can ask the child to look at the rest of the words and to read out any words that can be decoded.

Score as correct if the child pronounces the made-up words as shown below. Write down the error if the pupil makes a mistake (eg, reads “buf” as “but”). Then score out of 50.

A pronunciation key and a scoring diagnostic guide for phonics subskills are below.

**Pronunciation key**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | gub (as in “tub”) | 21 | fene (as in “seen”) | 41 | bafnov (as in “baff-nov”) |
| 2 | sot (as in “pot”) | 22 | yate (as in “gate”) | 42 | rulnupe (as in “rull-noop”) |
| 3 | tid (as in “lid”) | 23 | bome (as in “home”) | 43 | defov (as in “dee-fov”) |
| 4 | vef (as in “Jeff”) | 24 | nupe (as in “soup”) | 44 | giction (as in “fick-shin”) |
| 5 | cag (as in “bag”) | 25 | kibe (as in “tribe”) | 45 | prefene (as in “pre-feen”) |
| 6 | puv (as in “love”) |  |  | 46 | uncubeness (as in “un-cube-ness”) |
| 7 | hod (as in “rod”) | 26 | phane (as in “lane”) | 47 | exyated (as in “ex-yay-ted”) |
| 8 | bik (as in “sick”) | 27 | che (as in “me”) | 48 | senwoxable (as in “senn-wocks-a-bul”) |
| 9 | kel (as in “bell”) | 28 | sho (as in “go”) | 49 | befkubber (as in “beff-cubb-er”) |
| 10 | zam (as in “jam”) | 29 | whu (as in “true”) | 50 | vamozful (as in “vamm-ozz-ful”) |
| 11 | jun (as in “sun”) | 30 | thide (as in “side”) |  |  |
| 12 | fep (as in “step”) |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | quib (as in “rib” | 31 | smaw (as in “store”) |  |  |
| 14 | rog (as in “dog”) | 32 | frew (as in “grew”) |  |  |
| 15 | naz (as in “jazz”) | 33 | gler (as in “her”) |  |  |
| 16 | lut (as in “but”) | 34 | slar (as in “car”) |  |  |
| 17 | mav (as in “have”) | 35 | twor (as in “for”) |  |  |
| 18 | yox (as in “box”) | 36 | treef (as in “beef”) |  |  |
| 19 | weg (as in “peg”) | 37 | cloob (as in “tube”) |  |  |
| 20 | diz (as in “fizz”) | 38 | prail (as in “mail”) |  |  |
|  |  | 39 | broy (as in “toy”) |  |  |
|  |  | 40 | droaf (as in “loaf”) |  |  |

**Diagnostic guide to phonics skills**

Total score \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50

CVC (3 letter words) #1-20 ------ score \_\_\_/20

Silent e #21-25 ------score \_\_\_/5

Consonant digraphs #26-30 ------------score \_\_\_/5

Consonant blends and Vowel teams #31-40 -------------score \_/10

Multi-syllable words #41-50 ------score \_/10

Reference: Tom Nicholson Check of Basic Decoding Skills © (adapted from Bryant Test of Basic Decoding Skills, New Zealand Dyslexia Handbook)

**Student Copy**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| gub | fene | bafnov |
| sot | yate | rulnupe |
| tid | bome | defov |
| vef | nupe | giction |
| cag | kibe | prefene |
| puv | phane | uncubeness |
| hod | che | exyated |
| bik | sho | senwoxable |
| kel | whu | befkubber |
| zam | thide | vamozful |
| jun | smaw |  |
| fep | frew |  |
| quib | gler |  |
| rog | slar |  |
| naz | twor |  |
| lut | treef |  |
| mav | cloob |  |
| yox | prail |  |
| weg | broy |  |
| diz | droaf |  |