

Top tips for teaching

Skill 1: Learning the Letter Sounds

Practice your pronunciation – ensure you say the sound you’re teaching, correctly!

1. Revise Previously Taught Sounds

- Use more than one method of revising previously taught sounds (Check for separate sheet called ‘Top Tips for Sound Revision’).
- Revision should focus on those previously taught sounds that your learners find most challenging.

2. Sound Stories (with Jolly Phonics Actions)

- Practice telling the story – it is meant to help your learners to remember the sound and action that the story leads to.
- Does the story work for a Zambian context? If not, adapt it.
- Make it memorable!
 - You can personalize the story. Pretend it happened to you, or that you saw it.
 - Bring in objects to help children visualize the story and bring it to life.
 - Ask them questions to help them identify with the story (e.g. Have you ever been bitten by ants?).
- Ensure you introduce the correct Jolly Phonics Action.
- Relate the Jolly Phonics Action to the story and get children to practice it.
- Ask some brief comprehension questions to check the children’s understanding and recall of the story.

3. Jolly Phonics Songs

- Use the ‘Jolly Lessons’ App to familiarize yourself with the tune.
- Check the song makes sense for a Zambian context (Check for separate sheet called ‘Jolly Phonics Song Lyrics (BOZ)’)
- Check the song matches the story that you tell your class.
- Make sure you teach your class the song lyrics and check their understanding.