

Suggested Sound Stories for a Zambia Context

The purpose of these stories is to introduce the sound of the day and its accompanying action. These are summaries of suggested stories – if you decide to change the stories, please keep the original correlating action.

Top tips

- Familiarise yourself with the story – try to **tell** it rather than **read** it.
- Add details that help make the story memorable.
- Personalise the story. Tell the story as if you saw it, or it happened to you.
- Ask your class questions that help them to relate to the story (What could that noise be? Have they ever been covered in ants?)
- Involve the children in your class. If it is appropriate get them to act it out part of the story to help others visualise it.

Although these stories can be great for children to expand their vocabulary in English, the primary purpose of the stories is to introduce the sound of the day and to make it memorable. Therefore, if necessary, please also use some Zambian language to ensure that children understand the story as it will enhance their recall of the sound the story introduces.

Group 1 Sounds

/s/	One sunny day Samson is walking by a stream with his dog, Spot. Samson throws a stick for Spot to bring back. The stick lands by a bush. Rather than bringing the stick back, Spot stands still, sniffs and then starts to bark at a bush. As Samson goes closer to Spot he hears a sound, /s/. What could it be? Yes, there's a snake in the bush. The snake hisses 'ssssssss' and runs away. Action: <i>move your hand like a snake. Say /s/.</i>
/a/	It's January and the Banda family are working in the field. Andrew and Annie stop digging to drink amenshi and pick a mango. As Annie stands there, she starts to feel itchy all over. "Ah!", Annie realises that she's standing on an ant nest. Ants have crawled up her leg and onto her arm. Action: <i>pretend to be Annie and use your hand to brush the ants off your arm. Say /a/.</i>
/t/	Using an imaginary ball and racket, challenge one of your students to play tennis with you. As the children watch the 'ball' go from one side of the classroom to the other, they should move their head and say /t/ with each 'hit' of the 'ball'. Action: <i>move your head, looking left and right as if watching tennis. Say /t/.</i>
/i/	Inonge is at home cooking impwa on the fire. She leaves the pan for a few minutes and when she returns she notices some of the food has gone. At first, she blames her brother, Innocent, but then she hears 'i i i' and realises it was a mouse in the house instead! Action: <i>Wiggle your fingers by your nose and pretend they are mouse whiskers. Say /i/.</i>
/p/	It is time for Peter and Patrick to go to bed. Peter puffs out the candle and puts his head on his pillow. Just as he's drifting to sleep, he hears a putzi fly making noise. He lights the candle, finds the fly and kills it. Then he blows the candle out again. (repeat this a couple of times: Peter hears the fly, swats it and then puffs out the candle 'p p p'). Action: <i>Pretend to hold a candle in front of you and puff it out. Say /p/.</i>
/n/	Naomi was playing netball with her friends. She's just about to take an important, match winning point, when her little brother Nathan starts to pretend to be an aeroplane with his arms out like wings. She's distracted and misses the shot. Action: <i>Pretend to be a plane and put your arms out like wings. Say /n/.</i>

Group 2 Sounds

/c/ /k/	Katongo is playing in the stream when his brother Kabwe warns him about getting eaten by a crocodile. Katongo isn't scared and kicks the water around. All of a sudden /ck/! Katongo gets bitten on the toe! But thankfully, it isn't a crocodile, it is a crab! Action: Pretend to be a crab pinching. Put your hands above your head then clap your thumb and fingers together with either hand. Say /k/ with each clap.
/e/	Esther loves eating fried eggs. Her mother, Estella, is teaching her to cook them for herself. It starts with getting the oil in the frying pan hot. Then she cracks the egg on the side of the pan 'e e e' and then fries it for her dinner. Action: pretend to crack an egg on the pan. Say /e/
/h/	Harriet and Helen are having a hopping race from 'here' to the hill. At the end of the race both girls are tired and so they huff and puff, 'h h h' panting for breath. Action: Bend over and raise your hand to your mouth. Breathe heavily and feel the air on your hand. Say /h/.
/r/	Ruth's puppy, Rex, is rather naughty. He will grab Ruth's chitenge with his teeth, pulls on it and won't let go, 'rrrrrrr'. Action: Pretend to be Rex. Grit your teeth as if you are holding onto the chitenge, then shake you head from side to side as you say /r/.
/m/	Memory, Mercy and Mwila are sitting together at breaktime. Mercy is getting hungry and the children start talking about their favourite foods. Mangoes, mushrooms, meat... then Mwila's mum brings them some roasted maize. The children rub their tummies 'mmmm'. Action: Rub your belly and say /m/ as if you are thinking of your favourite food.
/d/	Dalitso is bored at the end of church and wants to go home. His Dad is in a meeting and his mum is chatting. Whilst no-one is looking, Dalitso sneaks over to the drum set and starts hitting the drums, 'd d d d'. Action: Pretend to play the drums. Say /d/ with each hit of your drum.

Group 3 Sounds

/g/	Everday, Gertrude has to fetch water from the water kiosk. She walks there with her friend Gwen. Gertrude has a green container, Gwen's container is grey. When she gets home, she pours the water into her family's water drum. The water makes a /g/, /g/, sound as she pours the water out. Action: Twist your hand around as if it is water coming out of a jug
/o/	Newly connected to Zesco, Olidah and Obed are so happy to have electricity in their home. When it gets dark and it is time to go to sleep, they keep turning the light on and off in their excitement. Action: Put your finger out and flick the light switch on and off. Say /o/ with each flick.
/u/	It's a sunny day and Justin and his family are coming back from church. Suddenly the sky turns grey and it starts to rain. Thankfully Mum has an umbrella and puts it up to keep everyone dry. Everyone fits under the umbrella except Uncle Duncan who gets very wet indeed. Action: Put your fists on top of each other and pretend to put up an umbrella. Say /u/.
/l/	Loveness is in grade 3. She just loves sweets and lollipops. Who here likes lollipops? But Loveness was naughty and would eat sweets all the time, even in class! As Mr Lungu was teaching, every time he turned around to write on the board, Loveness would lick her lollipop. He heard her licking and turned around quickly to catch her. Naughty Loveness. Action: Pretend to hold and lollipop by your mouth and then lick it. Say /l/
/f/	Fred and Finess have been playing football with their friends at the football field. Fred passes the ball to Finess who takes a hard shot and scores her fourth goal past Faith. The football goes through the goal and hits a sharp stone, 'ffffff' the ball goes flat as the air escapes. They find a pump and inflate the football. Action: Pretend to hold the football as the air escapes your hands move closer together. Say /f/.
/b/	Ben and Blessing are meant to be watering the garden, but the thing they love best is playing basketball. They try to do their chore whilst bouncing basketballs but it goes badly. They end up making a mess. Action: Pretend to bounce a basketball. Say /b/

Group 4 Sounds

/ai/	<p>Amy has ear pain. She goes to the clinic to get it looked at. The doctor speaks to Amy but she can't hear properly. She cups her hand over her ear and says "ai ai ai"</p> <p>Action: Pretend to be Amy. Cup your hand behind your ear. Say /ai/.</p>
/j/	<p>Ask the children if they know what Jelly is. Make some and bring it in to class so that they can see how it moves. It is sweet and wobbles back and forth. Show it to the class and maybe let them taste a spoonful.</p> <p>Action: Pretend to be Jelly. Put your arms down by your side and wobble your whole body. Say /j/</p>
/oa/	<p>Noah and Jonah are going to the shops to buy a loaf of bread and some soap. They find a herd of goats walking along the road. The big billy goat looks grumpy and decided to chase Jonah down the road. Noah is shocked to see the chase and puts his hand up to his mouth and says 'oh'</p> <p>Action: Pretend to be Noah. Put your hand up to your mouth and says 'oa oa oa'</p>
/ie/	<p>Isaac and Ivy were in town when the Army were marching through. They stopped to watch them and loved seeing the men and women in their smart uniforms. They saw them salute one another and decided to copy them. As the army marched passed them Isaac and Ivy marched around too and then stopped to salute one another saying 'ie-ie'</p> <p>Action: If space permits, let the children march around together- when they see a friend, they should greet them with a salute (raise a flat hand to their forehead) and say 'ie-ie'</p>
/ee/ /or/	<p>Have they ever seen a donkey? It is a very noisy animal, with tall ears and it is known for being very stubborn. If it doesn't want to go somewhere or if you try to make it do something it doesn't like, it will pull against you and make a loud noise, 'ee-or , ee-or'.</p> <p>Action: make your hands into donkey ears, bend them forwards and back as you say /ee/ and /or/.</p>

Group 5 Sounds

/z/	<p>Have you ever seen a bee? What noise does it make? Bees fly around going to different flowers to find sweet nectar. When it has lots of nectar they go back to the bee hive where it lives and turns that nectar into honey. If you can bring some honey in for the children to taste.</p> <p>Action: Pretend to be a bee buzzing. Arms by your side, flap your hands and say 'zzzz'</p>
/w/	<p>It is a windy day, William and Wanji made kites with their friends. They collected a plastic bag and some sticks and used a string from a mealie meal sack. When they were finished, they went outside and flew their kites in the whirling wind.</p> <p>Action: Cup your hands under your mouth and say 'w w w'</p>
/ng/	<p>Mr N'gandwe is a very strong man that lives in the house next door to N'gandu. Every morning and evening Mr N'gandwe goes outside and does exercises. He always lifts heavy weights to make his muscles big. N'gandu watches his neighbour and pretends to lift heavy weights too.</p> <p>Action: Pretend to pick up a heavy weight – Make a strained face and say 'ng' as you 'lift' it up.</p>
/v/	<p>Who likes eating vegetables? Victor has a garden that grows many vegetables (list a few), so many that he sells them in the village. Victor harvests some vegetables and then loads them into a van. He then drives around in his van delivering his vegetables.</p> <p>Action: Pretend to be Victor, holding his steering wheel as he drives in his van 'v v v'</p>
/oo/	<p>There's a funny bird called a cuckoo (pronounced cook-oo). They are naughty black and white birds who really like shiny things. When no-one is watching they will try to steal anything that sparkles (like coins, foil, glass, sweet wrappers) and then they take it back to their nests. The Cuckoo is also well known for its call which is where he gets his name. It says 'Cook-oo, Cook-oo.</p> <p>Action: move your head forward and back as you say the 'oo' and 'oo' sounds</p>

Group 6 Sounds

/y/	Yona and Yande love to eat yoghurt. When they go to visit their Auntie, she knows that yellow yoghurt is their favourite and so buys a cup for them to share. As they eat the two children makes the sound, 'y y y y'.
	Action: Pretend to be Yona or Yande and take BIG spoonfuls of pretend yoghurt. Say 'y, y, y'
/x/	Exildah was with her friends, playing with a box they found. Exildah climbed onto the box when it broke and she landed on some rocks and hurt her arm badly. She had to go to hospital where the doctor used an X-Ray camera to see if her bone was broken. The X-ray camera made the sound 'x'
	Action: Pretend to hold an X-ray camera to your eye and take a photo. Say 'x'
/ch/	Chanda visits her Uncle Chama who lives close to the railway. Chanda loves trains and gets so excited when she hears the noisy train approaching. She jumps off the couch, looks out the window and pretends to be a train making the sound 'ch ch ch ch' as she moves her arms.
	Action: Move your arms in a circular motion like pistons on a train. Say 'ch,ch,ch'
/sh/	Shadrick has a new baby sister, Shekinah. The baby has been crying lots, but the mother finally gets the baby to sleep as Shadrick comes home from school. He comes into the house shouting with excitement. 'Sh sh sh sh!' says his Mother, 'Don't wake the baby!'
	Action: Put your index finger up to your lips. Say 'shhh'
/th/ /th/	In Baby class there were two children who always argue, Theo and Martha. One day, in the classroom Theo stuck his tongue out (a little) at Martha '/th/'. Martha responded by sticking her tongue out a lot /th/. They continued to stick their tongue out at each other as the head teacher walked into the class. She told them both off for being so rude.
	Action: Stick your tongue out a little. Say 'th' (voiced). Then stick it right out. Say 'th' (unvoiced).

Group 7 Sounds

/qu/	Have you ever seen a duck? They are a bit like chickens except they love water and can often be found swimming. Ducks will swim around on the water for a while then they will stop, put their head under and stick their bottom in the air. Ducks make a very special sound as they swim 'qu qu'
	Action: Put your hands together like a duck's beak. Separate your fingers like a mouth. Say 'qu'
/ou/	Sanka wants to learn to how to sew and so her auntie is teaching her. She is being really careful not to make any mistakes, but just as she's saying to her Auntie "I think I can do it on my own now – 'ou'", she accidentally pricks her thumb with the needle.
	Action: pretend to prick your finger with a needle. Say 'ou'.
/oi/	Boyd was a noisy boy who played loudly with his toys. If his mum needed some quiet she would send him to the shops. Today his mum had a headache and so she sent Boyd to the shops to buy some oil. She gave him a handful of coins and told him to take his time. Boyd didn't want to go alone and so he called over to his neighbour Roy to join him. Roy can't hear Boyd's voice and so Boyd cups his mouth and shouts 'oi' to get Roy's attention. Now mum's headache was even worse!
	Action: Pretend to be Boyd and cup your mouth. Say 'oi'
/ue/	Mr Eugene is an old man who doesn't like children. One day the children next door accidentally kick their ball into his garden. It lands right behind Mr Eugene as he watered his tomatoes. The children sneak into his garden and tried creeping to get the ball. Mr Eugene hears something and turns around quickly. All the children stand still like statues. Because his eyesight is so bad, Mr Eugene can only see children if they are moving. If he spots anyone moving, he points at them and says 'ue' and sends them out of his garden. (You can then play this as a game with your class)
	Action: Pretend you are old Mr Eugene and point at someone else. Say 'ue'.
/er/	It is the middle of hot season and Ernest and Everlyn are sweating. They have been running around outside and they needed to cool down. Ernest has enough money to get a max cool and so they decide to head to Mrs Phiri's Ntemba. Mrs Phiri is a kind lady. She gives them a max cool each and then let them sit in front of the electric fan to help cool them on this very hot day.
	Action: Move your hands around like an electric fan. Say 'errr'
/ar/	Arnold is not well. He has pain in his throat and so his Auntie want to take him to the clinic. It is too far to walk, so she calls Mr Archie who drives them to the clinic in his car. The doctor tells him to open his mouth wide and say 'ar'...this will help me to see your throat better". Arnold opens his mouth and says "ar".
	Action: Pretend to be Arnold and open your mouth for the doctor. Say 'ar'