

Story Extension Activities for EFL Phonics 5

EFL Phonics provides fun and engaging stories and chants in each unit. The phonics stories in the EFL Phonics series are specifically written for young learners of phonics. The stories allow students to apply the phonics rules in the context of a story and focus on the target sounds. The texts are thoughtfully designed for the students by providing them with simple and short sentence structures, repetitiveness, and a limited number of words. The stories also include sight words, which are high frequency words that students are encouraged to memorize so they can quickly be recognized in text. By combining target sounds and sight words, phonics stories allow students to better understand phonics and put them on the right track towards successful reading.

The stories found in the EFL phonics series are comprised of playful storylines and captivating illustrations. Through these engaging and carefully designed stories, students will improve their reading skills and obtain a feeling of success while also having fun.

• Tips When Teaching Phonics Stories

When teaching phonics stories, it is important for teachers to understand that they should focus on application of the phonics skills, not on the translation. The aim of teaching phonics stories is to have students gain exposure to longer texts allowing them to improve their phonics and reading skills. Here are some helpful suggestions for teaching the phonics stories:

- **Use audio aids.** The audio allows students to better understand the story and to be exposed to natural pronunciation from an English-speaking voice actor.
- **Do not translate the sentences. Use pictures instead.** Stories are provided with matching illustrations. Make sure that students build connections between the words and the pictures in the story.

- **Use chants or songs.** Have students read the sentences with rhythm. It will allow students to memorize the sounds of the words and the sentence structures more efficiently.

The extension activities below are designed to be used as after-reading activities. However, feel free to use them at anytime you find appropriate.

NOTE In the EFL Phonics series, the **sight words** used in each story are listed on the bottom of every unit's story page and the **target words** are colored in red in each story.



Activity 1

► Objective

To allow students to become more familiar with the sight words.

► Instructions

- ① Make a 5x5 table on a sheet of paper. Fill in the spaces randomly using the sight words. They can be used more than once.
- ② Make enough copies for your students and distribute the sheets of paper.
- ③ Shout out a sight word and have the students count how many times they see it on the paper.

Activity 2

► Objective

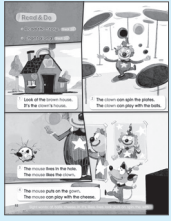
To improve students' reading fluency.

► Instructions

- ① Pair up students.
- ② Ask students to take turns reading to each other.
- ③ Have students read the entire story to their partner or they can do it sentence by sentence.

NOTE Encourage students to use emotion or acting while reading.

Unit 5



Activity 1

- ▶ **Objective**
To allow students to become more familiar with the sight words.

- ▶ **Instructions**

- ① Choose two or three sight words. Assign different actions for them.
Ex. For 'the,' touch your head once.
For 'can,' touch your head twice.
- ② Read the story as a class. Tell students they must do the actions as they read the story.

Activity 2

- ▶ **Objective**

To improve students' reading fluency.

- ▶ **Instructions**

- ① Put students into reading pairs.
- ② Tell them they will take turns reading the story to each other three times.
- ③ The first time, they will have 40 seconds to read the story, then 30 seconds, and finally 20 seconds.

NOTE Feel free to modify the times so they are more suitable for your class.

Unit 6



Activity 1

- ▶ **Objective**
To improve students' reading and listening accuracy as well as sight word recognition.

- ▶ **Instructions**

- ① Read the sentences from each scene to the students.
As you read, randomly substitute new sight words.
- ② Ask students to listen and count how many times you used the wrong word.
Ex. (Scene 1)
Teacher: The girl in the yellow skirt has the bird.
"My bird is a good singer!" say the girl.
Students: Two times!
- ③ Have students correct the sentences and read them out loud.

Activity 2

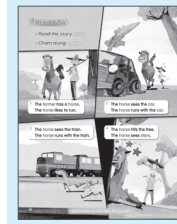
- ▶ **Objective**

To allow students to become more familiar with the unit's target words in context.

- ▶ **Instructions**

- ① Put students into pairs.
- ② Tell students to have their Unit 6 flashcards ready.
- ③ Have students sit facing each other with the flashcards spread out between them with the picture side facing up.
- ④ Read the story to the students. At random, skip a target word and pause. Students should quickly find and hold up the missing word's flashcard.

Unit 7



Activity 1

- ▶ **Objective**

To allow students to become more familiar with the sight words.

- ▶ **Instructions**

- ① Call out a sight word from the list at the bottom of the page.
- ② Ask students to point or circle the word in the story.

Activity 2

- ▶ **Objective**

To improve students' reading fluency.

- ▶ **Instructions**

- ① After listening to the story, assign a sentence to each student.
- ② Have students read out their sentences when it's their turn.
- ③ Ask students to close their books and tell them to read out their sentences in the correct order.

Unit 8



Activity 1

▶ Objective

To allow students to become more familiar with the sight words.

▶ Instructions

- 1 Shout out a sight word and ask students to count how many times it's in the story. The first student to say the correct number gets a point.

Ex. Teacher: The.

Students: Seventeen times!

- 2 Repeat with a new sight word. The winner is the student with the most points.

Activity 2

▶ Objective

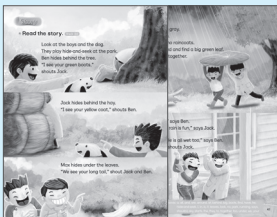
To improve students' reading fluency.

▶ Instructions

- 1 After listening to the story, put the students into pairs.
- 2 One student will read first. The other student will time.
- 3 When finished, have students switch roles. Then, record times.
- 4 Repeat to allow students to improve their times.

NOTE Students should focus on improving their reading speed, but also make sure they're reading in a clear fashion.

Review 1 and 2



Activity 1

▶ Objective

To improve students' reading and listening accuracy.

▶ Instructions

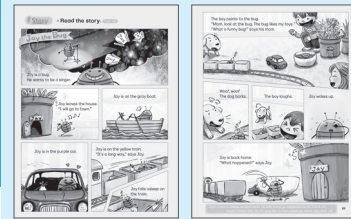
- 1 Choose a sentence from the story and read it out loud to the students.

- 2 Tell students to find and point to the sentence in the story.

Ex. Teacher: I see your [pause] green boots.

NOTE By giving a pause, you give the students a chance to quickly scan the story.

Challenge



Activity 1

▶ Objective

To allow students to become more familiar with the sight words.

▶ Instructions

- 1 Have your students make a 3x3 table for their Bingo cards.
- 2 Tell students to fill in the squares with the sight words.
- 3 Call out sight words. Have students cross them off when they hear them.
- 4 The first student to make a line wins.

Activity 2

▶ Objective

To allow students to become more familiar with the target words in context.

▶ Instructions

- 1 After listening to the story, read out a portion of a sentence and pause to allow the students to complete the sentence.

Ex. Teacher: Jays is a [Pause].

Students: Bug.

Teacher: He wants to be a [Pause].

Student: Singer.