



Decoding

The purpose of this activity is for students to practice decoding CVC words with the short vowel a.

Prepare

- Use a whiteboard large enough to write five words at a time. The font should be large enough for students to be able to see as you point to each of the letters.
- Use the word bank at the end of the activity.

Warm-Up



We have been reading words sound by sound and then blending the sounds together to read words. Let's practice that again today so that we can work to become fluent word readers!

Modeling

Write the first four words on the board: *ham, fat, man, pan.*

My turn first. I will sound out some words. When I touch each letter, I will say its sound and keep saying it until I touch the next letter. Then, I will say the next sound. I won't stop between sounds. After I sound out the word correctly, I will say it fast to read the word. This is our first word.
Point to *ham*.

Start saying the first sound as you touch just beneath the first letter and then move to the second letter while saying the sound. Hold each sound for about one second. ***Haaamm*. Now, I say it fast. *Ham*. This word is *ham*.**

Guided Practice



Now, we will sound out some more words together. When I touch each letter, we will say its sound and keep saying it until I touch the next letter. Then, we will say the next sound. We won't stop between sounds. After we sound out the word correctly, we will say it fast to read the word.

Say the sounds with me as I touch each letter. Start saying the first sound as you touch just beneath the first letter and then move to the second and third letters while saying the sounds. Hold each sound for about one second. ***Fffaaat*. Now, say it fast. *Fat*. What's the word? *Fat*.**

Guided Practice *Continued*

Now, let's try the next word together. Say the sounds with me as I touch each letter. Start saying the first sound as you touch just beneath the first letter and then move to the second and third letters while saying the sounds. Hold each sound for about one second. ***Mmmaaannn.*** Provide wait time so that all students can participate and then call on one student. **Say the sounds as I touch each letter, then say it fast to read the word.**

If Correct: Great. You said all of the sounds, and then you read the word "man."

Correct:
mmmaaannn, man

If Incorrect: Say the sounds with me as I touch each letter. *Start saying the first sound as you touch just beneath the first letter and then move to the second and third letters while elongating the sounds.* "Mmmaaannn." Say the word faster with me. "Mmaann." Let's say it faster now. "Man." Read the word.

Try to get a correct response before proceeding.

Practice



Your turn. Ready? Make sure everyone is looking at you, then touch the first letter of the next word and let the students sound it out without you. Provide wait time so that all students can participate and then call on one student. **Say the sounds as I touch each letter, then say it fast to read the word.**

If Correct: You've got it. You said the sounds without taking a break, and then you read the word. "Paaann, pan."

If Incorrect: Say the sounds with me as I touch each letter. *Start saying the first sound as you touch just beneath the first letter and then move to the second and third letters while elongating the sounds.* "Pppaaannn." Say the word faster with me. "Ppaann." Let's say it faster now. "Pan." Read the word.

Continue with the other words in the word bank.

To encourage full participation and allow assessment of individual students, write the word on the board first, provide time for all students to look at the word and practice sounding out and elongating the sounds, and then switch unpredictably between inviting a response from the whole group or from individual selected students. Point to the words in a random order to prevent students from memorizing a sequence.

Try to get a correct response before proceeding.

If some students can say the word slowly but not fast, you may need to give additional practice blending with them.

Word Bank

Word	Student responses
am	aaamm, am
pad	paaad, pad
sad	sssaaad, sad
tad	taaad, tad
lag	llaaag, lag
rag	rrraag, rag
sag	sssaaag, sag
jam	jaaamm, jam
Sam	sssaaamm, sam
tan	taaann, tan
cap	caaap, cap
gap	gaaap, gap
lap	llaaap, lap
rap	rrraap, rap
sap	sssaaap, sap
bat	baaat, bat
cat	caaat, cat
pat	paaat, pat
rat	rrraat, rat
sat	sssaaat, sat

Wrap-Up



You worked hard at reading sound by sound and then blending the sounds together to read the words. You are becoming fluent word readers!