

Information for Teachers
B Series and B Series Extra

Introduction

Books 1–10 of the B Series were written in 1999/2000 to ensure that children learnt the basic correspondences for the sight and sound of each single letter of the alphabet.

Books 11–16 were written in 2007 to provide stories using the letters of the alphabet in simple CVC words. Hence, this series is named B Series Extra.

Books 1 and 10 in the B Series have been revised in the new print run of July 2009.

The revision in Book 1 is the removal of the word 'can'. It was originally used in the context of a drink can. However, the healthy-eating campaigns of recent years have reduced children's consumption of fizzy drinks, and they have not come across the object 'a can of drink'. Consequently, all the pictures of cans have been removed and the title of the book has been changed to a man.

The revision in Book 10 is the removal of the word 'very'. This is now classed as a decodable word in Phase 5 of the Phonic Progression. Hence, it has been removed for simplicity. There are no other changes to this book.

The vocabulary in each book of the two B Series consists of very simple CVC words. It is not easy to guess the words from the pictures, and children often struggle with some of these books. The B Series books provide practice in identifying each phoneme and blending the phonemes together to make the words.

There are no capital letters until Book 5 when 'I' is introduced in the phrase 'I am ...' 'J' in Jelly is also introduced here.

The grapheme 'y'

The letter 'y' is used at the end of the name Jelly, where it is pronounced |j|. This is the only form of 'y' in both these series.

There are three different uses of the grapheme 'y'.

1. The 'Shy 'i', Toughy 'y' rule for word endings. The letter 'i' is shy. It does not like to be exposed on the end of a word, so the letter 'y' helps out and replaces it. If you think of the words 'mummy, daddy, sorry, baby, happy, puppy', you will see that children use these types of words very often.

2. The use of 'y' as a grapheme (spelling) for the phoneme (sound) |ie|. Words containing this form are 'my, by, sky, try, cry, fly, why'. The word 'my' is listed as a high-frequency word to be taught in Phonic Phase 3 and is not used in either the B Series or the B series Extra.

Notice that in both the above forms, 'y' is acting as a vowel. The third use involves 'y' acting as a consonant.

3. The initial consonant 'y' appears in the words 'you, yes, your, yacht, yellow, yesterday, yo-yo, yak, yet'. The phoneme (sound) for |y| in these words is completely different to the other two phonemes for |y|. It is not used in this form in any of the books in the B Series or B Series Extra.

You will also see the letter 'y' used in words like 'gym, rhythm, hymn' in books more advanced than Jelly and Bean titles. In these words it is an alternative grapheme for the phoneme |i|.

Vowel digraphs and tricky words

The only vowel digraphs used in the B Series are 'ee' and 'oo' in 'see' and 'look'. The B Extra Series introduces the vowel phoneme |ou| in the word 'out'. This can be thought of as a 'tricky' high-frequency word at this stage.

The only other tricky high-frequency words used in the B Series and B series Extra are: 'the, I, me, no, to, little, out, into, oh'.

Letters

The letters of the alphabet are introduced as shown below.

B Series

Book	Title	New letters	Capitals
1b	a man	achmnot	
2b	a bat	bix	
3b	a bad dog	dg	
4b	a pet rabbit	p	
5b	a hen and a rat	ry	I J
6b	Sam	sf	ST
7b	The big bell	lk	BPL
8b	The big black hat	q (ck)	A
9b	The web on the jug	jw	
10b	The big cat	vz	K

B Series Extra

Book	Title	Capitals
11B	Ten Pegs	
12B	Tom and the Socks	M
13B	The Tub	H
14B	The Egg	
15B	The Fox	F
16B	The Box	

Vocabulary

The new vocabulary introduced in each book is shown below.

B Series

Book 1B	a cat mat hat on cot hot man
Book 2B	bat box in tin bin hit
Book 3B	dog and mad bad
Book 4B	fox pet rabbit
Book 5B	I am hen hut rat ran Jelly net
Book 6B	Sam has cap put frog fat see run red can
Book 7B	Bean look at big bell fell pull off cut his leg hugs
Book 8B	black duck is quack kitten me oh trick
Book 9B	web jug taps jumps up will not pond

Book 10B Kevin fast cannot zig-zag into

B Series Extra

Book 11B ten pegs socks no bag of sits mud

Book 12B Tom seven mum dad little pigs silly

Book 13B tub fun help to bump bang tips out

Book 14B nest gets an egg

Book 15B fox stuck back den

Book 16B next opens lid van go with

The use of high-frequency 'tricky' words in both series:

Word	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
the				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
I					*			*			*					
me							*									
oh								*			*		*	*		*
into										*						*
no											*					*
to											*		*	*		*
little												*	*		*	*
out												*		*	*	
go													*			
																*

The use of vowel digraphs in both series:

Word	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
see						*			*	*	*	*			*	*
look							*	*		*	*	*				*
out													*			

The vocabulary used in each story is printed on the inside back cover of each book.

The text of each story is available to photocopy from one of our volumes of texts.

Information for Teachers
Phase 3 B Digraphs Series 17-24

Introduction

This series of books follows on from the B Extra Series 11-16. The consonant digraph 'sh' is used in all the books and 'ch' from book 20 onwards. The irregular high-frequency words 'he, she, they, you, are, have, comes, two, my, her' are introduced as well. The vowel digraphs 'ee, ay, ai, er, ow, ou, oo' are used as shown in the chart below.

Book	Title	New Phonic Content
17B	<i>The Ship in the Tub</i>	sh, ay,
18B	<i>The Sheep on the Hill</i>	er, ow
19B	<i>Flash! Crash! Bang!</i>	ai, ou
20B	<i>The Sitting Hen</i>	ch
21B	<i>Rubbish</i>	----
22B	<i>In the Mist</i>	----
23B	<i>Going Fishing</i>	----
24B	<i>Choc-chips</i>	oo

Use of Digraphs

17B	sh	--	ee	ay	--	--	--	--	--
18B	sh	--	ee	--	--	er	ow	--	--
19B	sh	--	ee	--	ai	er	--	ou	--
20B	sh	ch	ee	ay	--	--	--	--	--
21B	sh	ch	ee	--	--	--	--	--	--
22B	sh	--	ee	ay	--	er	--	ou	--
23B	sh	ch	ee	ay	ai	er	--	--	--
24B	sh	ch	ee	--	--	er	--	--	oo

The words in blue below are the first occurrence of these words from the lists of 100 and 200 high-frequency words

Vocabulary in each book

Book 17B: *The Ship in the Tub*

Phase 2: a in can tub has fun is on top of and

Phase 3: see ship Kevin with

Phase 4: jumps crack splits splash bump flat

Tricky: the to oh no are

Other: Lotty play

This book introduces the consonant digraph *'sh'* in the words *'ship, splash'*.

Book 18B: *The Sheep on the Hill*

Phase 2: and up hill get hot a at top of hits his not as

Phase 3: Kevin *then* down sheep with *feet three tree well*
see

Phase 4: rest fast bump land cross crash

Tricky: are *going* the they have comes *very* he all *do*

Other: Lotty *under coming* (NB *'er'* is used in *'under'*.)

Book 19B: *Flash! Crash! Bang!*

Phase 2: and at is gets of

Phase 3: Kevin *looking* rain bang bigger deeper then see

Phase 4: splish splash splosh flash crash afraid swim stops
bank stops

Tricky: are the *water* have to *out*

Other : Wellington puddle kennel rainbow

This book introduces the digraph *'er'* in the words *'bigger, deeper, water.'*

Book 20B: *The Sitting Hen*

Phase 2: a hen is on in gets up has egg cannot and am

cats dogs

Phase 3: sitting shed Kevin see then chicks

Phase 4: next crack

Tricky: the go to you said I my **two every** little

Other: hay Jelly Bean play Lotty day

This book introduces the digraph '**ch**' in the word '*chicks*'

Book 21B: *Rubbish*

Phase 2: a bag of has bin it is rat can rips it an and
pulls cannot get its

Phase 3: rubbish **been** sees egg-shell teeth then fish chips
for

Phase 4: left **next** smell skin crust **from** soft lunch

Tricky: to the into they are

Other: smelly banana pizza

Book 22B: *In the Mist*

Phase 2: a is on in it runs log cannot but lots of big
rabbit

Phase 3: sees peeps **things** rush seven **long** with

Phase 4: grass mist **after** creeps soft past from cross

Tricky: the into she **her** comes out little very

Other: Jelly away fluffy

Book 23B: *Going Fishing*

Phase 2: and picks up a on net dogs sit in tug has let

Phase 3: Kevin with fish feels

Phase 4: pond stick string end catch frog

Tricky: are going to the water no

Other: Wellington today

Book 24B: *Choc-chips*

Phase 2: is a big cat has full of sits on bed ill in his
can

Phase 3: Chuff dish kevin's feels looks sees [better](#)

Phase 4: sleep

Tricky: he all no you are said having my

Other: choc-chips silly until

The vocabulary used in each story is printed on the inside back cover of each book.

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