

## **Information for Teachers**

### **Follifoot First Words Series**

#### **Introduction**

When I was devising this series of eight books I assumed that schools would be teaching children the phoneme/grapheme correspondences of the letters *a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u*, probably beginning with *s, a, t, p, i, n*. However, to be able to use the animals *cat, rat* and *hen*, I needed to use the letters *a, c, e, h, n, r, t*. By including the word *cats*, I also managed to include the letter *s*. Then I needed a connecting word to join my nouns in phrases and I found that I could illustrate the most number of situations using the word *on*. So the choice of letters for the first book turned out to be *a, c, e, h, n, o, r, s, t*.

In keeping with the rationale of only using words that children understand, I introduced a *bag* and a *dog* in book 2 as well as the connecting word *in*.

The letters *f, l, m, u, k, p* were then introduced in books 3, 4, 5 at the rate of two letters per book in that order. I also wanted book 3 to introduce the word *and*, and book 4 to introduce the word *the*, so that the books stayed parallel with those of the A and B Series of Jelly and Bean.

There are no verbs used in books 1-5, hence, no capital letters or full stops are used either. Books 6-8 all contain sentences beginning with *I*, but there are no character names, so *I* is the only capital letter in the whole series. Furthermore, it is used in its role as a first person singular pronoun, thus avoiding any confusion with its use in the word *It* at the beginning of a sentence, where it is pronounced differently.

The introduction of letters and vocabulary is shown below.

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## Introduction of letters

Book no.	Title	Small letters
1	<i>a hat</i>	a c e h n o r s t
2	<i>a bag</i>	b i g d
3	<i>bats</i>	l f
4	<i>mad hens</i>	mu
5	<i>kitten</i>	k p
6	<i>I am a rat</i>	
7	<i>I am mad</i>	
8	<i>I can dig</i>	

## Vocabulary used

Book No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
a	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
on	*	*	*	*	*		*	
cat(s)	*	*			*	*		
hat	*							
hen(s)	*			*				
rat	*	*		*		*		
bag		*				*		
in		*		*		*		*
big		*		*				
dog		*	*					*
hot		*			*			
bat(s)			*				*	
frog(s)			*				*	
and			*	*	*	*		*
off			*					
log			*				*	
hut				*				
the				*		*	*	
mad				*			*	
eggs				*				
not				*				
kitten					*			

cup					*			
pan					*			
pen					*			
red					*			
his					*			
bed					*			
I						*	*	*
am						*	*	*
rip						*		
can						*	*	*
dig						*		*
run						*		
hop						*	*	
sit						*		
mud							*	
sad							*	
pull								*
up								*
rag								*
tub								*
full								*
wet								*