G Sound Word List

Back of the tongue lifts to the soft palate, just like /k/, but with the voice switched on. Keep the tongue tip down behind the bottom teeth.



SOUND	TYPICAL AGE	TYPE
/g/	By age 3-4	Voiced Velar stop

PRACTICE TIP

Gargling games and pretending to be a "hungry monster" (guh-guh-guh) both pull the tongue into the right back-of-the-mouth spot.

Initial Position (73 words)

The sound is at the beginning of the word.


girl


game


gate


gum


goat


gift


goose


golf

These and 32 more pictured words are in the G Sound picture cards.

1 Syllable

36 words

go	goose	gear	gong	gulp
girl	golf	geese	got	gush
game	gold	get	gourd	gust
gate	gas	ghost	guard	guy
gum	gown	gill	guess	
goat	gap	give	guest	
good	gasp	goal	guide	
gift	gave	gone	gull	

2 Syllables

33 words

garden	gallon	garlic	gobble	gosling
guitar	gopher	gather	going	gotten
garbage	gadget	gecko	golden	gurgle
gumball	gallop	geyser	goldfinch	gutter
goggles	game board	giddy	golf ball	goodbye
goldfish	garage	gift box	goofy	
guppy	garland	giggle	goose bumps	

3 Syllables

4 words

gorilla	godmother	gopher hole	guinea pig

High-frequency initial words

Everyday words rather than picture-card words - which is why most lists leave them out. A child already says these hundreds of times a day, so they carry more carryover value than any noun above. Target them in conversation, not in drill.

get, go, got, give, girl, gets, giving, goodbye, gives, gotten, guessing, guessed, guesses

Medial Position (68 words)

The sound is in the middle of the word.


wagon


tiger


sugar


dragon


bagel


magnet


cougar


giggle

These and 37 more pictured words are in the G Sound picture cards.

2 Syllables

55 words

wagon	forget	digger	jaguar	shaggy
tiger	yogurt	dogwood	jigsaw	signal
sugar	penguin	dugout	jogging	soggy
dragon	seagull	eagle	jungle	yoga
bagel	jogger	eggplant	luggage	zigzag
magnet	bigger	figure	mango	piggy
cougar	ago	finger	organ	doggy
wiggle	baggage	flagpole	pigpen	tugboat
giggle	bingo	hugging	plugging	digging
begin	bugle	hungry	rugby	foggy
again	burger	igloo	sagging	juggle

3 Syllables

12 words

sunglasses	magnify	tiger cub	wiggly
kangaroo	regular	together	magazine
wagon wheel	sugar bowl	vinegar	hamburger

4 Syllables

1 word

alligator

High-frequency medial words

Everyday words rather than picture-card words - which is why most lists leave them out. A child already says these hundreds of times a day, so they carry more carryover value than any noun above. Target them in conversation, not in drill.

again, together, exactly, against, forgot, hungry, begins, forgets, hugging

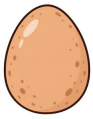
Final Position (56 words)

The sound is at the end of the word.


bag


dog


pig


egg


leg


frog


bug


rug

These and 34 more pictured words are in the G Sound picture cards.

1 Syllable

42 words

bag	log	plug	jig	shrug
dog	hug	twig	jug	slug
pig	big	bog	lag	snag
egg	jog	chug	lug	snug
leg	tag	clog	peg	tug
frog	wig	dug	pug	wag
bug	mug	fig	rag	
rug	dig	fog	rig	
flag	drag	hog	sag	

2 Syllables

12 words

hot dog	hedgehog	handbag	sandbag
groundhog	leapfrog	iceberg	tote bag
bulldog	bullfrog	name tag	treefrog

3 Syllables

2 words

sleeping bag	ladybug

Generalization

Word lists get a sound into a child's mouth. Generalization is what gets it into their life. These are activities where the target words come up on their own, so nobody has to be talked into practicing.

Play-based ideas for young children

Go-and-stop games

Red light green light, or a toy car that only moves when someone says "go." Take turns being the one who says it, and model "go" clearly on your turns.

Words that come up: go, go go go, again, get it, give me, gone, grab, big, dig, wagon, ready, my go, let go

Garden digging

Plant seeds in a pot, real or pretend. Dig, water and check on them. Bury toy bugs to find later.

Words that come up: garden, dig, grow, green, grass, bug, wagon, gate, ground, water, big, again, give, gone

Hungry monster

A puppet or a paper-bag monster that gobbles food with a loud "guh-guh-guh." Feed it and let it ask for more.

Words that come up: gobble, go, get, give, more, gone, hungry, big, yuck, grapes, egg, bag, again, good

Conversation and verbal games for older kids

Guess the game

Describe a board game, video game or sport without naming it. "Game," "guess" and "goal" repeat the whole time.

Good, better, best

Rank three things and justify the order. "Good," "great" and "gets" carry the conversation.

Grocery run

Plan a shopping list for a meal, aisle by aisle. Groceries, grapes, green beans, garlic, gravy - the aisle list is a word list.