M Sound Word List

Close the lips gently, turn the voice on, and let the sound come out through the nose. The lips stay shut the whole time.



SOUND	TYPICAL AGE	TYPE
/m/	By age 2-3	Voiced Bilabial nasal

PRACTICE TIP

Have the child hum with a finger on the side of their nose - they should feel it vibrate. If there is no vibration, air is escaping through the mouth.

Initial Position (109 words)

The sound is at the beginning of the word.


man


moon


milk


mom


mouse


mouth


map


mud

These and 54 more pictured words are in the M Sound picture cards.

1 Syllable

55 words

man	make	mean	mine	moose
moon	mall	meat	mint	mop
milk	mane	meet	miss	more
mom	march	melt	mist	moss
mouse	marsh	mend	mix	most
mouth	mask	mess	moat	moth
map	mast	mice	moist	mound
mud	mat	might	mold	mow
mad	match	mild	mole	munch
mail	maze	mile	month	mutt
main	meal	mind	mood	math

2 Syllables

47 words

monkey	melon	maybe	midnight	motor
mitten	machine	mayor	minnow	mower
magnet	magic	meadow	minute	mumble
marker	mammal	measure	mirror	muscle
mailbox	mango	menu	model	mustard
muffin	mansion	meow	moment	many
mountain	maple	messy	money	mommy
mushroom	marble	metal	monster	
medal	market	meter	morning	
mermaid	mattress	middle	mother	

3 Syllables

5 words

magazine	memory	mosquito	mystery	microphone

4 Syllables

2 words

motorcycle	macaroni

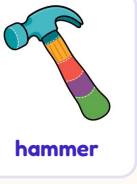
High-frequency initial words

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.

me, my, make, maybe, made, may, might, move, myself, minute, makes, making, moving, meant, month, middle, mama, moved, meaning, moves

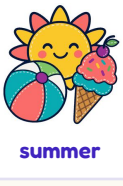
Medial Position (80 words)

The sound is in the middle of the word.


hammer


camel


lemon


summer


swimming


jumping


farmer


hammock

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

2 Syllables

65 words

hammer	chipmunk	common	humming	simmer
camel	almost	compass	mammoth	slumber
lemon	amaze	complete	number	stomach
summer	amber	diamond	plumber	swimmer
swimming	among	dimple	pompom	temper
gummy	amount	dreaming	promise	temple
jumping	armor	drumstick	pumpkin	thimble
farmer	bumper	emerald	remind	timer
hammock	camping	empty	remote	tummy
chimney	climbing	famous	rumble	tumble
oatmeal	comet	gumball	salmon	woman
drummer	comfort	human	sample	yummy
hamster	coming	humid	simple	mommy

3 Syllables

13 words

tomato	animal	lemonade	hamburger	vitamin
camera	pajamas	ambulance	hammerhead	
family	cinnamon	cucumber	umbrella	

4 Syllables

2 words

elementary	memory box

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.

something, someone, coming, remember, woman, family, tomorrow, somebody, almost, sometimes, himself, somewhere, mama, themselves, empty, grandma, remembered, swimming, jumping, climbing, remembers

Final Position (82 words)

The sound is at the end of the word.


drum


ham


gum


home


swim


game


broom


thumb

These and 33 more pictured words are in the M Sound picture cards.

1 Syllable

65 words

drum	comb	clam	him	slim
ham	name	climb	hum	some
gum	dime	come	lamb	squirm
home	plum	cream	lime	steam
time	worm	crumb	limb	stem
swim	team	dome	loom	stream
game	mom	dream	palm	sum
broom	storm	film	ram	swarm
thumb	aim	flame	rim	tram
room	beam	foam	roam	trim
arm	bloom	frame	same	warm
farm	calm	from	seam	yam
jam	charm	gym	seem	zoom

2 Syllables

16 words

ice cream	bottom	poem	volume
alarm	game room	rhythm	bathroom
album	mushroom	swim team	bedroom
autumn	perfume	vacuum	blossom

3 Syllables

1 word

uniform

High-frequency final 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.

some, am, name, came, become, seem, became, climb

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

Yummy snack time

Eat something genuinely delicious and ham it up. "Mmmm" is the sound itself, so every bite is a free repetition.

Words that come up: mmm, more, yum, my, mine, mouth, milk, munch, mama, num num, some, warm, time, home

Mama and baby animals

Match baby animals to their mothers. Let the babies get lost and call for mama.

Words that come up: mama, mommy, me, my, mine, more, animal, farm, home, come, name, same, warm, time

Magnet board

Stick magnetic letters or shapes on the fridge. Name each one as it goes up, then take them down.

Words that come up: magnet, more, my turn, mine, move, make, name, same, on, off, up, room, time, come

Conversation and verbal games for older kids

My top moments

Describe the best moments of a month or a summer. "My," "moment," "most" and "memory" all repeat.

Make a meal

Plan a meal from scratch, naming every ingredient and method.

Memory game

I went to the market and I bought... Each turn adds an item and repeats the list.