

Long and Short Sound Activity

It is common for children to shorten long sounds in words for example some children may shorten the long sound 's' to the short sound 't' or 'd' e.g. sun may be produced as "tun" or "dun".

We can think about these sounds in terms of length. So 's' and 'f' are long sounds because we can keep the sound going for a long time; 't' and 'p' are short sounds as they cannot be lengthened.

Long sounds

s, sh, v, z, m, n, f

Short sounds

p, b, t, d, k, g

Mr Long vs. Mr Short Activity – use the attached picture sheet. See if your child can draw lines to identify whether the objects are long or short, e.g. for the short ladder a line should be drawn from Mr Short to the short ladder. If they find this activity difficult, then use the picture to demonstrate what 'long' and 'short' are.

