

a /ar/: The grapheme A spells /ar/

Instructional Notes

This lesson has been added into the Australian Scope and Sequence due to A commonly representing the sound /ar/.

1: Phonemic Awareness

Blend	Segment
/ar/ /s/ /k/ (ask)	fast (/f/ /ar/ /s/ /t/)
/l/ /ar/ /s/ /t/ (last)	mask (/m/ /ar/ /s/ /k/)
/b/ /l/ /ar/ /s/ /t/ (blast)	grass (/g/ /r/ /ar/ /s/)
/g/ /r/ /ar/ /s/ /p/ (grasp)	paths (/p/ /ar/ /th/ /s/)

2: Visual Drill

Graphemes	Phonemes
a (/ă/, /ā/), r (/r/),	/ar/ (ar), /r/ (r), /ē/ (e, y),
ar (/ar/), y (/y/, /ī/, /ē/),	/ī/ (i, y), /j/ (j, g, dge),
dge (/j/), g (/g/, /j/),	/ch/ (ch, tch), /t/ (t, -ed),
tch (/ch/), ch (/ch/),	/d/ (d, -ed), /s/ (s, ss, c),
-ed (/t/, /d/, /əd/),	/ā/ (a), /ō/ (o)
c (/k/, /s/), i (/ī/, /ī/),	
o (/ō/, /ō/), e (/ē/, /ē/),	
u (/ū/, /ū/, /yū/),	
nk (/ŋk/), ng (/ŋ/),	
ph (/f/), th (/th/, /th/)	

4: Blending Drill

host → hold → holt → hot → dot → dart → cart → part → park → dark → bark → barge → large → charge

Initial			M	Final			+
b	c	d	o	g	k	t	e
h	l	p	ar	lt	st	ld	
ch							

5: New Concept

Introduction

We have learned about the /ar/ sound. We learned AR can spell /ar/ like in the words bark, far, and arm.

The letter A can also represent the /ar/ sound. A spells /ar/ in the middle of a word, such as the words bath and last. A can spell /ar/ at the beginning of a word, such as the words ask and after.

Articulatory Gesture

To make the /ar/ sound as in ‘arm,’ start with an open relaxed mouth and as you say the sound, drop your chin a little like this (model). Be sure your voice is on. Like all vowels, /ar/ is a continuous sound that can be stretched out (use continuous hand motion). Watch me /ar/. You try /ar/.

Sound Wall

Add ‘a’ under /ar/

Letter Formation

Practise letter formation, as needed.

Read	Spell
I do: ask, class, mast	I do: past, craft
We do: asked, gasp, fast, mask, past, last, grasp, grass, flask	We do: last, fast, ask, grass, class, blast

6: Word Work

Work Work with Manipulative Letters

ask → task → mask → mast → cast → past → fast → last → blast

7: Irregular Words

Review	Teach
four, fourth, forty, people, pretty	half

8: Connected Text

Read	Spell
My class had a party.	I can't have a bath.
Sam and her dad went rafting.	The path led to the tall grass.
I asked to be last to pick my mask.	She asked for two large glasses.

Decodable Text

See Decodable Text Guide

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Word Work Chains	Word Lists	
Onset-Rime Level: -ast	a /ar/	2 Syllables
blast → last → fast → past → cast	ask	basket
Onset-Rime Level: -ask	bath	drama
mask → task → nask → ask → bask	blast	data
Phoneme Level: -ing	brass	lava
blasting → lasting → fasting → <i>asting</i> → asking → masking → tasking	cast	nasty
Phoneme Level: Mixed Review	class	
baths → paths → path → pat → past → mast → mask → ask → bask → <i>fask</i> → fast → last → blast → <i>blask</i> → brass → grass → grasp → gasp	craft	
Phoneme Level: Intro Lesson	draft	
ask → task → mask → mast → cast → past → fast → last → blast	fast	
	flask	
	gasp	
	glass	
	grasp	
	grass	
	last	
	mask	
	mast	
	pass	
	past	
	path	
	raft	
	staff	
	task	