

Actions linked to each grapheme

Phoneme	Graphemes & Image	ditty	Actions
/s/	s (s'more)	's'mores are sizzling s s s'	kneel down on one knee hand held out as if cooking a marshmallow
	ss (grass)	'class on the grass ss ss ss'	sit one hand on the other and wave fingers like grass
	c (circles)	'centipedes exercise in circles s s s'	draw circles on the back of one hand with your finger
	st (listen)	'listen to the hustle bustle s s s'	put your hand up to your ear as if listening
/a/	a (ant)	'ants are amazing a a a'	tap fingers on hand like an ant walking
/t/	t (toad)	'tumble like a toad t t t'	tumble hands over each other
/p/	p (pumpkin)	'pumpkins in the patch p p p'	pretend to pick up a heavy pumpkin
/i/	i (insect)	'insects make me itch i i i'	'itching' all over, both hands
	y (mythical creature)	'myth and mysteries i i i'	shocked face
/n/	n (newt)	'nod like newts n n n'	'nod your head'
	kn (knitting)	'knots in your knitting n n n'	pretend to be holding knitting needles and move them as if knitting
	gn (beaver gnawing)	'gnash and gnaw n n n'	pretend to chew a tree trunk, tip head sideways and stick out front teeth like a beaver
/m/	m (mud)	'messy in the mud m m m'	pretend to stamp feet in 'mud'!

	<b>mb (thumb)</b>	'crumb on my thumb m m m'	do a thumbs up on one hand and brush your thumb with the other hand
/d/	d (dig)	'dig down deep d d d'	'pretend to hold your spade and dig the garden'
/g/	g (growing) <b>gh (ghost)</b>	'growing in the garden g g g'	wiggle hand up like a shoot growing out of the ground
/σ/	σ (oranges)	'offer round the oranges σ σ σ'	pretend to hand out oranges
	a (squash)	'wash the squash σ σ σ'	pretend to hold a squash under the tap and rub hand over it to wash it
/c/	c (caterpillars)	'caterpillars crawling c c c'	index finger crawl like a caterpillar on other hand
	k (kind)	'keep being kind k k k'	give yourself a hug
	ck (stick)	'pick up a stick ck ck ck'	pretend to pick up a stick
	<b>ch (choir)</b>	'choir at the anchorage c c c'	pretend to sing but exaggerate the mouth movements
/e/	e (egg)	'egg extravaganza e e e'	pretend to throw over arm as if throwing the wrapped egg
	<b>ea (tread)</b>	'tread carefully in the meadow e e e'	tip toe round
/u/	u (umbrella)	'up go umbrellas u u u'	pretend to put up your umbrella
(accent can impact)	σ (colour)	'come see the wonderful colours u u u'	place one hand out flat at your side and move it up and over in front of you to make a rainbow

on this box!)	u (bush)	'shush past the bush oo oo oo'	pretend to sneak past on tiptoe
	oo (book) short	'look at a book oo oo oo'	pretend to sit holding a book and turn pages
	oul (could)	'could doesn't mean should oo oo oo'	curl hand up leaving index finger out and wag it from side to side to indicate NO
/r/	r (robot)	'run like robots r r r'	pretend to be a robot and run with stiff joints
	wr (wristband)	'wrap on the wristband r r r'	pretend to be putting on a wristband
/h/	h (hat)	'hats on heads h h h'	pretend to put your bobble hat on your head
/b/	b (bottle)	'bring in your bottle b b b'	pretend to have a drink from your water bottle
/f/	f (feather)	'fly like a feather f f f'	start with hand up high and gradually move it lower swaying side to side in the breeze
	ff (office desk)	'staff in the office ff ff ff'	pretend to be typing letters at your desk
	ph (photographs)	'photo of the trophy ph ph ph'	pretend to be holding a camera and taking photographs
	gh (laugh) ??		
/l/	l (log)	'ladders and logs l l l'	pretend to climb a ladder
	ll (shell)	'small as a shell ll ll ll'	hold hand open and look as if with a magnifying glass
	-le (candle)	'handle the candle with care l l l'	both hands cupped in front of body as if carrying a candle

	-el (angel)	'marvel at the angel l l l'	look up in the sky, point with one hand and place other one on heart
	-al (diagram)	'horizontal or vertical l l l'	move hand(s) in a horizontal direction in front of body, then in a vertical direction from head down to toes
	-il (pencil)	'a pencil for each pupil l l l'	pretend to sharpen pencil, holding sharpener in one hand and turning the pencil with the other.
/j/	j (jump)	'jump for joy j j j'	jump around
	g (giant)	'giants are gentle j j j'	stand up on tip toe and stretch arms open wide, walk as if a giant
	ge (challenge)	'huge range of challenge j j j'	pretend to walk up some steps like the book stacks
	dge (hedge)	'hedge round the edge j j j'	arms bent at elbows, use them to show hedges along sides and then ends
/v/	v (vegetables)	'variety of vegetables v v v'	mime chopping and slicing up vegetables
/w/	w (window)	'wave out the window w w w'	wave
	wh (whisper)	'whisper while we work wh wh wh'	one hand cupped next to mouth and pretend to be whispering into someone's ear
/x/	x (fox)	'relax like a fox x x x'	stretch out and bring arms back to form a cross in front of body

/y/	y (yell)	'you can yell y y y'	hands by mouth and pretend to yell as loud as you can
/z/	z (zip)	'zig-zag up your zip zzz'	pretend to be doing up your zip
	zz (buzz)	'whizz by buzzing zz zz zz'	hands by side like a bees wings buzzing
	se (please)	'please don't tease z z z '	pretend to be sad and rub eyes as if crying
/qu/	qu (quiet)	'quiet at the quiz'	stood tall straight and quiet, with finger on lips
/ch/	ch (chop)	'chop up chunks ch ch ch'	pretend you are chopping wood with your axe
	tch (catch)	'watch and catch ch ch ch'	look away to a corner of the room, bring eyes back to centre as if watching something moving then reach out as if grabbing it
	t (picture)	'picture of nature ch ch ch'	pretend to be sitting at a painting easel painting a picture of the beautiful landscape
/sh/	sh (ship)	'splash on the ship sh sh sh'	pretend to be holding onto the ships wheel and wipe the splashes from your face
	ch (parachute)	'parachute like a cloche sh sh sh'	pretend to jump then pull the string, arms out to float down
/th/ soft	th (moth)	'moth on the cloth th th th'	pretend to be a moth fluttering around, elbows in by sides
/th/ buzzy	th (gather)	'gather this and that th th th'	pretend to hold a basket in one hand and pick things up with the other

/ng/	ng (children singing)	'sing a song ng ng ng'	pretend to be singing
/ai/	ai (rain)	'snail in the rain ai ai ai'	make raindrops with fingers
	ay (play)	'play all day ay ay ay'	Clap hands as if playing a playground clapping game
	a-e (cake)	'bake a cake a-e a-e a-e'	pretend to take a bite of cake and rub your tummy
	ey (prey)	'survey of the prey ai ai ai'	hand across top of eyes and look in a sweeping move from side to side
	a (acorn)	'acorns on the table ai ai ai'	act surprised as if something bumped you on the head, give it a rub
	further alternatives eigh (eight) ei ea		
/ee/	ee (seeds)	'seeds off the trees ee ee ee'	stand straight and create a tree top with your arms
	ea (dream)	'reach for your dreams ea ea ea'	pretend to be asleep, hands together next to one ear, head tilted sideways, eyes closed
	ey (child dancing)	'do the hokey cokey ey ey ey'	pretend to do the hokey cokey, hands out at sides as if holding in a circle, move forwards and then back
	e-e (big red cross)	complete don't delete e-e e-e e-	wag finger to indicate don't delete

	ie (wise owl)	'believe to achieve ee ee ee'	stand straight and do a Usain Bolt move
	e (behave)	'behave like me ee ee ee'	big smile and do a big double thumbs up
	y (tree canopy)	'leafy canopy ee ee ee'	lay down on floor and look up, sway hands above face as if they were leaves
	further alternatives; ei i i-e		
/igh/	igh (fingers crossed)	'might be right igh igh igh'	fingers crossed
	ie (magpie)	'magpie in the skies ie ie ie'	pretend to be a bird flying, arms stretched out wide
	i-e (slide)	'glide down the slide i-e i-e i-e'	start one hand off up high and then whoosh it down the slide
	i (idea emoji)	'ideas for items I I I '	pretend that you've had a great idea, place index finger on your head and flick it off with a beaming face
	y (fly)	'fly in the sky I I I '	pretend to be a plane, arms stretched out NO flapping
	further alternatives; y-e		
/oa/	oa (boat)	'float in the boat oa oa oa'	pretend to sit in the boat and row with the oars

	oe (toe)	'hoe, mind your toe oe oe oe'	point at the hoe then grab your toe
	o-e (note)	'wrote a note o-e o-e o-e'	one hand out flat and pretend to write on it with the other hand
	o (post/mail)	'open the post oa oa oa'	pretend to hold an envelope in one hand and rip it open with the other
	ow (snow)	'throw the snow oa oa oa'	pretend to grab some snow and roll it into a snowball,
/oo/ long	oo (moon)	'zoom to the moon oo oo oo'	pretend one hand is a rocket, place it on the other as a launch pad and then zoom it up into the sky
	ue (blue)	'hues of blue ue ue ue'	point up to the big blue sky
	ew (chew)	'chew the stew ew ew ew'	pretend to chew the stew
	u-e (flute)	'tune on a flute u-e u-e u-e'	pretend to be holding a flute and playing it
	<p>further alternatives</p> <p>u</p> <p>o</p> <p>ou</p> <p>ui</p> <p>o-e</p> <p>eu</p>		



/ar/  (accent can impact on this box!)	ar (car)	'park the car ar ar ar'	pretend to be driving your car
	a (raft)	'go after the raft ar ar ar'	pretend to swim after the raft to get it back, front crawl arms over head
	al (palm tree)	'calm under a palm ar ar ar'	lay down on back, hands behind head and relax
/or/	or (thorn)	'torn on a thorn or or or'	pretend your clothes have got caught on a thorn and tug at them to release
	ore (snore)	'don't snore or ignore or or or'	waggle finger in front of face then place hands together and pretend to sleep
	aw (saw)	'saw and draw aw aw aw'	pretend to be sawing using the bow saw like at forest school
	au (autumn leaves)	'autumn doesn't daunt us au au au'	starting up high shake hands and move them down towards the floor like falling leaves
	al (ball)	'walk tall to get the ball or or or'	walk tall and proud around the room
	our (four)	four on the tennis court or or or'	hold up four fingers and pretend to count them
	augh (caught)	'distraught at being caught or or or'	hold hands up on either side of head and wave them around whilst looking shocked

	ar (wardrobe) [after w]	'warm in the wardrobe or or or'	pretend to hold the wardrobe doors and open them up to see what's inside
/ur/	ur (church)	'turn to the church ur ur ur'	arms up high and hands sloped in together to make the church spire
	ir (stir)	'stir the dirt ir ir ir'	pretend one arm is holding a large bowl, and the other a wooden spoon, stir the mixture
	er (fern)	'ferns and herbs er er er'	pretend to rub the mint with your fingers and then sniff then
	ear (earth)	'search the earth ur ur ur'	pretend to be using binoculars, hands curled up by face and moving head side to side
	or (bookworm) [after w]	'bookworm loves words ur ur ur'	wiggle your finger like a worm
/ow/	ow (flowers)	'make a crown of flowers ow ow ow'	pretend to be putting a crown on your head
	ou (numbers)	'count out loud ou ou ou'	point to your friends and pretend to count them
/oi/	oi (coin)	'coins in the soil oi oi oi'	pretend to scoop out some soil and pick up a coin
	oy (toy)	'toys to enjoy oy oy oy'	pretend to be building a tower using wooden bricks
/ear/	ear (ear)	'hear with your hear ear ear ear'	

	ere (sphere)	'here is a sphere ear ear ear'	start with hands together and move them out and round to draw a round shape
/air/	air (hairbrush)	'brush your hair on the chair air air air'	pretend to be brushing your own hair
	ear (pear)	'bear with a pear air air air'	make a pear shape with your finger
	ere (signpost)	'where? There! everywhere air air air'	hand on chin pondering to start then make bold action to point in different directions
	are (care emoji)	'be aware and always care air air air'	hand over eyes looking then give self a hug
/ure/	ure (manure)	'the smell sure is manure ure ure ure'	hole nose with one hand and waft the other hand in front of your face
/er/	er (tower)	'ladder on the tower er er er'	pretend to be climbing up the ladder
/yoo/	u-e (musical notes)	'tune on a flute u-e u-e u-e'	pretend to be conducting an orchestra, waving one hand around
	u (uniform)	'ukuleles and uniforms yoo yoo yoo'	pretend to be holding a ukulele and playing it
	ue (hues)	'hues of blue ue ue ue'	pretend to open up a large paint chart and look at it
	ew (stew)	'chew the stew ew ew ew'	pretend to get the pot of stew out of the oven
	further alternatives; eu		

Tricky letters show no grapheme-phoneme correspondence. They make a different sound to the one that has been taught. We colour them gold (?) For example, the 'a' makes an 'o' sound in squash.