

# Word Families!

**Word families** are groups of words that have a common feature or pattern - they have some of the same combinations of letters in them and a similar sound. For example, at, cat, hat, and fat are a family of words with the "at" sound and letter combination in common. **Word Families** are sometimes referred to as groups, chunks or rhymes. A word family has something in common with each other, have it be the prefix, suffix or root word. For example, green, grass, grow all have the "gr" sound in the beginning of the word.

Word families are important because they help young children recognize and analyze word patterns when they are learning to read. When teaching analytic phonics, teachers use word families to help children understand these patterns and that certain words have the same letter combinations and sounds.

# Word Families Chart

**-ag**

bag  
brag  
drag  
rag  
sag

snag  
tag  
wag

flag

**-uck**

truck

buck duck struck  
luck truck truck

**-op**

top

chop mop  
drop pop  
hop shop stop

**-ive**

hive

dive strive  
drive thrive  
live live

**-all**

snail

tail jail mail nail  
sail tail trail  
quail

**-ite**

kite

bite quite  
site write

**cap -ap**

clap nap trap  
gap scrap wrap  
lap strap  
map tap

**-ell**

bell

fell sell spell  
shell tell  
smell well yell

**-oat**

boat

coat goat  
float oat  
gloat throat

**-one**

phone

bone cone  
lone stone  
tone zone

**-ame**

frame

blame name  
came flame same  
fame game tame

**-eet**

feet

beet sheet  
fleet sleet  
greet street  
meet sweet

**-ing**

ring

bring string  
king swing  
sing thing  
spring wing

**-ig**

pig

big dig  
rig wig  
dig twig

**-ig**

big dig  
rig wig  
dig twig

**-og**

dog

log fog  
hog smog

**-eep**

sheep

beep keep  
creep weep  
deep sleep  
jeep sweep

**-ight**

light

bright might  
flight night  
knight right  
light sight

**-ow**

bow

blow low  
flow row  
glow show  
grow slow  
know snow

**-ake**

cake

bake shake  
lake snake  
make take  
rake wake

**-ice**

mice

dice price  
rice slice  
twice

**-ock**

sock

knock  
lock  
rock  
shock  
stock  
clock dock  
flock

**-amp**

lamp

camp champ  
clamp ramp  
damp stamp

**-ug**

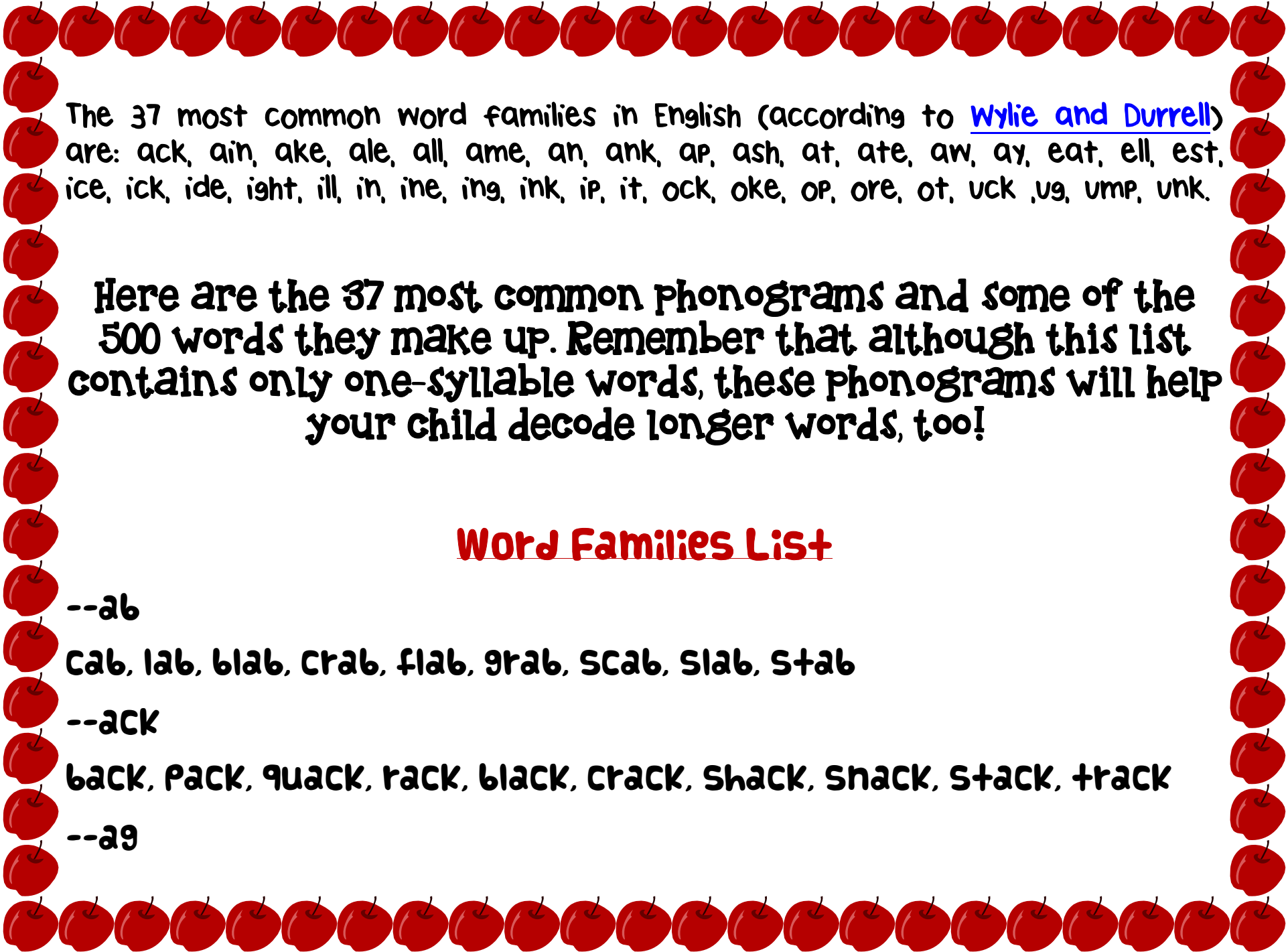
bug

dug mug  
hug plug  
jug tug

**-at**

cat

bat hat  
fat mat  
flat pat  
gnat sat  
that



The 37 most common word families in English (according to [Wylie and Durrell](#)) are: ack, ain, ake, ale, all, ame, an, ank, ap, ash, at, ate, aw, ay, eat, ell, est, ice, ick, ide, ight, ill, in, ine, ing, ink, ip, it, ock, oke, op, ore, ot, uck, ug, ump, unk.

**Here are the 37 most common phonograms and some of the 500 words they make up. Remember that although this list contains only one-syllable words, these phonograms will help your child decode longer words, too!**

### Word Families List

**--ab**

**cab, lab, blab, crab, flab, grab, scab, slab, stab**

**--ack**

**back, pack, quack, rack, black, crack, shack, snack, stack, track**

**--ag**



**bag, rag, tag, brag, flag**

**--ail**

**fail, mail, jail, nail, pail, rail, sail, tail, snail, trail**

**--ain**

**main, pain, rain, brain, chain, drain, grain, plain, Spain, sprain, stain, train**

**--ake**

**bake, cake, fake, lake, make, quake, rake, take, wake, brake, flake, shake, snake**

**--am**

**ham, sam, clam, slam, swam**

**--an**

**can, fan, man, pan, ran, tan, van, bran, plan, than**

**--ank**

**bank, sank, yank, blank, crank, drank, thank**





--ap

cap, lap, map, nap, rap, tap, clap, flap, scrap, slap, snap, strap, trap, wrap

--at

bat, cat, fat, hat, mat, rat, sat, brat, chat, flat, spat, that

--ay

day, may, pay, say, clay, play, pray, spray, stay, tray

--eed

feed, need, seed, weed, bleed, freed, greed, speed

--ell

bell, fell, sell, tell, well, yell, shell, smell, spell, swell

--est

best, guest, nest, pest, rest, test, vest, west, chest, crest

--ew

jew, few, knew, new, blew, chew





**--ick**

**KICK, lick, PICK, QUICK, SICK, BRICK, CHICK, CLICK, STICK, THICK, TRICK**

**--ight**

**KNIGHT, light, might, night, right, SIGHT, tight, bright, flight, fright, Slight**

**--ill**

**fill, hill, PILL, will, CHILL, drill, grill, SKILL, SPILL, thrill**

**--in**

**bin, fin, Pin, Sin, win, Chin, grin, Shin, SKIN, SPIN, thin, twin**

**--ine**

**fine, line, mine, nine, Pine, vine, wine, Shine, SPINE, whine**

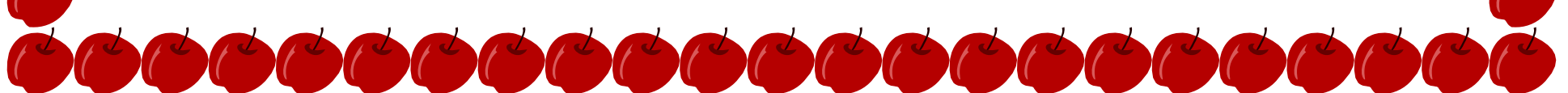
**--ing**

**king, ring, Sing, wing, bring, cling, Spring, sting, string, swing, thing**

**--ink**

**--ink**

**--ink**





link, pink, sink, wink, blink, drink, shrink, stink, think

--ip

dip, hip, lip, rip, sip, tip, chip, clip, drip, flip, grip, ship, skip, strip, trip, whip

--ob

knob, mob, rob, blob, slob, shob

--ock

knock, lock, dock, rock, sock, block, clock, frock, shock, stock

--op

cop, hop, mop, pop, top, chop, crop, drop, flop, plopp, shop, stop

--ore

bore, more, sore, tore, wore, chore, score, shore, snore, store

--ot

got, dot, hot, knot, lot, not, plot, shot, spot

--out



grouT, SCout, Shout, Spout, Sprout

--ow

cow, how, now, brow, chow, plow

--uck

buCK, duCK, luCK, cluCK, stuCK, truCK

--um

gum, hum, drum, plum, slum

--unk

juNK, chuNK, druNK, ShruNK, StunK, truNK

-y

by, my, cry, dry, fly, fry, shy, sky, spy, try, why

