

Letter Sound /t/

Flashcards: Revise the letter sounds /s/ and /a/. The children look at each letter, say the sound and do the action.

Introducing the letter sound: Use a story such as the one below, along with the action.

It is a sunny day, and Tom and Tamiko are playing outside with their toys. At first, they sit in the tent and play with a toy train, a spinning top and a teddy bear. Then they think about what to do next. "I know," says Tamiko, "let's play a game of tennis!" The two children grab their rackets and start to play over by the tulips. Each time the ball hits the racket, it makes a noise. They have a great time, taking turns to hit the ball to each other: "t, t, t, t." A cat, a toad and a tortoise are watching them play. The animals turn their heads from side to side as they watch the ball go back and forth, just like people at a tennis match: "t, t, t, t."

Action: The children pretend to watch a game of tennis, turning their heads from side to side as they say *t, t, t, t*.

Letter formation: Explain how the letter for /t/ is written, pointing out that it is a tall letter and starts slightly higher up than the letters <s> and <a>. The children form the letter in the air and then practise writing <t>, <s> and <a> in their books. They write over the dotted letters and then try again, using the starting dots.

Blending: Ask the children to look at the words *at* and *sat* in their books. Say the sounds with the class, and then blend the sounds together to read the word. The children point to the dot underneath each sound as they say it.

Identifying the sounds: Look at the four pictures at the bottom of the lesson page. Say the word for each one with the class: *tent*, *squirrel*, *teddy (bear)*, *tortoise*. The children listen for the word that does not start with the sound /t/ and cross out its picture [*squirrel*].

Dictation: Call out the sounds /t/, /a/, /s/ and ask the children to write the letter for each one.

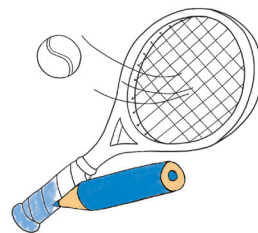
Developing accuracy and fluency: The children

Answers

T t



ACTION
Turn your head from side to side as if you are watching tennis, and say *t, t, t, t*.



t t t t t t t t t t t t t t t t
s a s a s a s a s a s a

at

sat

Say the word for each picture. Three have a /t/ sound at the beginning. Cross out the one that does not.



take home a sound book to read with their parents and bring back the next day.

Further ideas: Sing the /t/ song from Jolly Songs. Make model tortoises from modelling clay. Ask the children to bring in their teddies and have a teddy bear day. Pin up the /t/ section of the Wall Frieze.