

Letter Formation and Verbal Cues

	Formation	Verbal Cues: "When you say ___"
m	short stick down, up over, up over	/mmm/ your lips come together
p	stick way down (in the basement), up, around and close	/p/ puff of air comes out of your mouth (hand in front of mouth)
f	up and around, stick down and cross	/fff/ your top teeth touch your bottom lip
c	up and around	/k/ your tongue is humped in the back of your mouth
t	tall stick down and cross	/t/ tip of your tongue touches above your top teeth
s	up and around, back and around	/sss/ tip of your tongue touches above your top teeth and makes a snake sound
d	up and around, tall stick up and down	/d/ tip of your tongue touches above your top teeth and your voice box is on (children touch throat)
l	tall stick down	/lll/ tip of your tongue touches above your top teeth and it stays there
a	up and around, short stick down	/aaa/ your jaw and tongue are down
o	up and around and close	/ooo/ your mouth is open and your jaw drops
r	short stick down, up, over just a little bit	/rrr/ your voice box is on and the tip of your tongue goes up toward the roof of your mouth
b	tall stick down, up, around and close	/b/ your lips start out together, then they open and a tiny puff of air comes out of your mouth (hand in front of mouth)
i	short stick down, dot	/i/ your mouth is open and your tongue is slightly lowered
n	short stick down, up over	/nnn/ your tongue is behind your top teeth and a little air comes out of your nose (finger under nose)
g	up and around, stick way down (in the basement) and hook	/g/ your mouth is open and your tongue is humped at the back of your mouth; your voice box is on (children touch throat)
u	down, over, up, short stick down	/uuu/ your mouth is open, and your tongue is down
j	stick way down (in the basement), and hook, dot	/j/ your tongue is up and your lips are open
w	(diagonal, slide, or slant) down, up, down, up	/www/ your lips make a circle
e	stick out, up and around	/eee/ your mouth is open and your tongue is behind your bottom teeth

z	across, slide down, across (diagonal or slant)	/zzz/ the tip of your tongue touches above your top teeth and your voice box is on (children touch throat)
h	tall stick down, up half way and over	/h/ air comes out of your mouth (hand in front of mouth)
y	(diagonal, slide or slant) down, (diagonal, slide or slant) way down (in the basement)	/y/ your tongue is behind your lower teeth, and your mouth is open
k	tall stick down, (diagonal, slide or slant) in and out	/k/ your tongue is humped in the back of your mouth
v	(diagonal, slide or slant) down and up	/vvv/ your top teeth touch your bottom lip and your throat moves a little (children touch throat)
x	(diagonal, slide or slant) down and cross back	/ks/ it begins with the back of your tongue humped in the back of your mouth, then it makes a snake sound
q	up and around, stick way down (in the basement) and curve/check	/kw/ the back of your tongue is humped in the back of your mouth; your lips make a circle