









Encourage students to perform the Chants and Actions to introduce, practise and articulate all 43 sounds of Australian English.

Both live action and animated versions of the Chants and Actions videos are located in every Unit Overview at *Sound Waves Literacy Online*.

Consonant Sounds		
Sound	Chant	Action
	Bounce balloons – /b/, /b/, /b/. (pronounced /b/ as in balloon)	Hold hands out palm up. Move as if bouncing balloons up into the air.
	Crazy kites – /k/, /k/, /k/. (pronounced /k/ as in kite)	Raise arms above head holding a two-stringed kite. Pull arms down, up, down for /k/, /k/, /k/.
	Ducks dive down – /d/, /d/, /d/. (pronounced /d/ as in duck)	Use hands to make duck diving movements.
	Five fat fish – /f/, /f/, /f/. (pronounced /f/ as in fish)	Weave hand with fingers spread wide for five fat fish swimming through water.
	Girls giggle – /g/, /g/, /g/. (pronounced /g/ as in girl)	Nod head from side to side with a big grin.
	Happy house – /h/, /h/, /h/. (pronounced /h/ as in house)	Form a roof with hands overhead.
	Jumping jellyfish – /j/, /j/, /j/. (pronounced /j/ as in jellyfish)	Hold hands with fingers hanging down for tentacles. Jump hands around to /j/, /j/, /j/.
	Lizards like lollipops – /l/, /l/, /l/. (pronounced /l/ as in lizard)	Mime holding a lollipop and licking it.
	Mummy on the moon – /m/, /m/, /m/. (pronounced /m/ as in moon)	Bounce outstretched arms as if moving in a low gravity environment.
	Nanny has a net – /n/, /n/, /n/. (pronounced /n/ as in net)	Wave a net about catching insects.
	Ring on a finger – /ng/, /ng/, /ng/. (pronounced /ng/ as in ring)	Push a ring on a finger.
	Pretty pink pig – /p/, /p/, /p/. (pronounced /p/ as in pig)	Put hands up to each side of head and waggle for ears of a pig.
	Rusty robot – /r/, /r/, /r/. (pronounced /r/ as in robot)	Bend arms at elbow. Move lower arms up and down with a jerking motion.

Consonant Sounds		
Sound	Chant	Action
	Seals swim, seals slide – /s/, /s/, /s/. (pronounced /s/ as in <i>seal</i>)	Use hands to make up and down swimming and sliding movements.
	Trotting tigers – /t/, /t/, /t/. (pronounced /t/ as in <i>tiger</i>)	Move fingers in a trotting motion.
	Vase in a van – /v/, /v/, /v/. (pronounced /v/ as in <i>vase</i>)	Make a vase shape by putting heels of hands together and fingertips well apart.
	Water on a web – /w/, /w/, /w/. (pronounced /w/ as in <i>web</i>)	Trace a web outline in the air with a finger for <i>water on a web</i> . Draw three diagonal lines across web for /w/, /w/, /w/.
	Yellow yoyo – /y/, /y/, /y/. (pronounced /y/ as in <i>yoyo</i>)	Move wrist up and down miming using a yoyo, ending with three quick down strokes for /y/, /y/, /y/.
	Zebra in a zoo – /z/, /z/, /z/. (pronounced /z/ as in <i>zebra</i>)	Draw stripes across the face.
	Measure the treasure – /s/, /s/, /s/. (pronounced /s/ as in <i>treasure</i>)	Hold both hands out palm upwards and move up and down gently measuring the mass of the treasure.
	Chickens cheep – /ch/, /ch/, /ch/. (pronounced /ch/ as in <i>chicken</i>)	With bunched fingers, make beaks opening and shutting.
	Shiny shell – /sh/, /sh/, /sh/. (pronounced /sh/ as in <i>shell</i>)	Rub an imaginary shell in the hand to shine, then hold up to admire for /sh/, /sh/, /sh/.
	Thick thongs, thin thongs – /th/, /th/, /th/. (pronounced /th/ as in <i>thong</i>)	Hands apart for thick thongs, close together for thin thongs, then tramp feet for /th/, /th/, /th/.
	This feather, that feather – /th/, /th/, /th/. (pronounced /th/ as in <i>feather</i>)	Hold up a feather in left hand for <i>this feather</i> , and another in right hand for <i>that feather</i> . Twirl both around for /th/, /th/, /th/.

Vowel Sounds		
Sound	Chant	Action
	Ants on apples – /a/, /a/, /a/. (pronounced /a/ as in <i>apple</i>)	Hold fist in a ball to make a round, apple shape. Walk two fingers over it like ants crawling over an apple.
	Empty eggs – /e/, /e/, /e/. (pronounced /e/ as in <i>egg</i>)	Make cup shapes with hands to be empty egg shells.
	In the igloo – /i/, /i/, /i/. (pronounced /i/ as in <i>igloo</i>)	Hold up arms around body and shiver as though cold.
	On the orange – /o/, /o/, /o/. (pronounced /o/ as in <i>orange</i>)	Hold fist to be a round, orange shape. Tap top of fist.
	Umbrellas up – /u/, /u/, /u/. (pronounced /u/ as in <i>umbrella</i>)	Put up an umbrella and hold it up.
	Snails play – /ai/, /ai/, /ai/. pronounced /ai/ as in <i>snail</i>)	Hold arms in front with fists facing down and thumbs stuck out. Move slowly to be snails sliding along.
	See the bee – /ee/, /ee/, /ee/. (pronounced /ee/ as in <i>bee</i>)	Hold arms up with hands under armpits. Move arms to be a buzzing bee.
	I like ice-cream – /i_e/, /i_e/, /i_e/. (pronounced /i_e/ as in <i>ice-cream</i>)	Hold up hand in front of body as though holding an ice-cream.
	Row the boat – /oa/, /oa/, /oa/. (pronounced /oa/ as in <i>boat</i>)	Mime rowing a boat.
	Be a star – /ar/, /ar/, /ar/. (pronounced /ar/ as in <i>star</i>)	Stretch arms and legs out to the side to make a star shape.
	Birds turn – /ir/, /ir/, /ir/. (pronounced /ir/ as in <i>bird</i>)	Hold out arms to be wings of a bird. Turn from side to side.
	I saw a horse – /or/, /or/, /or/. (pronounced /or/ as in <i>horse</i>)	Hold hands in front and nod head as though holding reins and galloping.
	Look at the book – /oo/, /oo/, /oo/. (pronounced /oo/ as in <i>book</i>)	Hold hands in front of body as though opening a book.
	Two new boots – /oo/, /oo/, /oo/. (pronounced /oo/ as in <i>boot</i>)	Stomp feet in time to the chant.

Vowel Sounds		
Sound	Chant	Action
	Cloud like a cow – /ou/, /ou/, /ou/. (pronounced /ou/ as in <i>cloud</i>)	Draw a cloud shape in the air with a finger.
	Boy with a toy – /oy/, /oy/, /oy/. (pronounced /oy/ as in <i>boy</i>)	Zoom a toy plane through the air.
	Dear little deer – /eer/, /eer/, /eer/. (pronounced /eer/ as in <i>deer</i>)	Mime patting a deer.
	There is a chair – /air/, /air/, /air/. (pronounced /air/ as in <i>chair</i>)	Hold one hand up flat and vertical. Press fist against palm to make a chair shape.
	Mother and father on a ladder – /er/, /er/, /er/. (pronounced /er/ as in <i>ladder</i>)	Move arms as though climbing a ladder.