DECODING SCREENER (AUSTRALIAN)
INSTRUCTIONS
Ages 5-adult

Purpose:

To determine whether a student has difficulties with decoding. Many students who struggle with reading have learned to read many words through memorising whole words. This test uses non-words, so that the student must use only the decoding method, rather than visual recognition.

Age:

This screener can be used for any age 5 and above.

Materials:

Flash cards (laminate and secure onto a keyring).

Starting point:

All students start at the beginning.

End point: This is based on the rough acquisition of spelling patterns as generally taught in schools (acknowledging that there is variation between schools).

Administration:

Ask the student to read the words aloud. Explain that the words are made up words. Write down the student's response to each word.

Scoring:

Score 1 for correct responses, 0 for incorrect responses (even if it is close). Take particular note of whether the student is trying to guess a real word instead of the non-word.

Some words have a rhyming word in the score sheet to avoid ambiguity with how the word should be read. This is information for the scorer, not the student.

Any subtest that scores 50% or less requires support. Place an asterisk in the 'support needed' column.

Outcome:

Each asterisk will form a goal for intervention, from earliest skill to latest.

DECODING SCREENER (AUSTRALIAN)

STUDENT NAME: _____DATE: _____

Age	Task	Student's Response	Score	Support Needed
Reception (5yo) STOP	1. VC Words			
	ob			
	ig			
	ux			
	ep			
	ak			
	ot			
			/6	
	2. CVC words			
	han			
	bem			
	yud			
	wom			
	kiv			
	laz			
			/6	
	3. Consonant clusters			
	smad			
	grib			
	wend			
	flig			
	vust			
	slom			
			/6	
	4. Consonant digraphs			
	chet			
	kish			
	thad			
	lotch			
	whuff			
	redge			
			/6	

	5. Vowel digraphs			
	fait (rhymes with bait)			
	doak (rhymes with oak)			
	peem (rhymes with deem)			
	rean (rhymes with lean)			
	bood (rhymes w food/hood)			
	nie (rhymes with lie or lee)			
			/6	
	6. Silent e			
	cabe (rhymes with babe)			
	vene (rhymes with lean)			
	fide (rhymes with ride)			
	zode (rhymes with load)			
	tupe (rhymes with dupe)			
	hede (rhymes with seed)			
			/6	
	7. Vowel-r			
	furd (rhymes with third)			
	horg (rhymes with morgue)			
	curm (rhymes with firm)			
Year 1 (6 yo) STOP	larp (rhymes with carp)			
	mirt (rhymes with dirt)			
	gair (rhymes with care)			
			/6	
	8. Dipthongs			
	bouse (rhymes with house)			
	foy (rhymes with boy)			
	dowd (rhymes with crowd)			
	goid (rhymes with Boyd)			
	roup (rhymes with soup)			
	fow (rhymes w cow/mow)			
			/6	
	9. Vowel-l			
	pilt (rhymes with tilt)			
	tull (rhymes with bull or gull)			
	nold (rhymes with mold)			
	zall (rhymes with ball)			
	velt (rhymes with felt)			
	foll (rhymes with doll)			
			/6	

10. Cons + le			
jibble			
puggle			
nuddle			
rottle			
tadle			
raddle			
		/6	
11. Multisyllabic			
cospate (kos-pate)			
relope (ree-lope)			
combag (kom-bag)			
mardle (mar-dle)			
vomeen (voe-meen)			
budling (bud-ling)			
		/6	
12. Y-ending			
cly ('eye' sound)			
netty ('ee' sound)			
sny ('eye' sound)			
roddy ('ee' sound)			
gry ('eye' sound)			
bardy ('ee' sound)			
		/6	
13. Silent letters			
vight (rhymes with bite)			
knop ('nop')			
wrab ('rab')			
pigh (rhymes with high)			
lumb (rhymes with gum)			
wret ('ret')			
		/6	