

Little Wandle Fluency: Tricky words

Tricky words are words that cannot be decoded easily. The table below includes Little Wandle core programme tricky words that remain 'tricky' at the end of the programme, plus some new tricky words (highlighted in pale blue) that children will read in the Little Wandle Fluency books. This table assumes that children will be taught the new graphemes in the 'Complete the code' grapheme chart (for example 'rh' /r/).

Word	Why is it tricky?	How to teach
although	The 'ough' says oa .	Point to 'ough'. Say: This grapheme says oa .
any	The 'a' says e .	Point to 'a'. Say: This grapheme says e .
beautiful	The 'eau' says yoo .	Point to 'eau'. Say: This trigraph says yoo .
build	The 'ui' says i .	Point to 'ui'. Say: This digraph says i .
business	The 'u' says i . The 'in' says n .	Point to 'u'. Say: This grapheme says i . Point to 'in'. Say: This digraph says n .
busy	The 'u' says i .	Point to 'u'. Say: This grapheme says i .
does	The 'oe' says u .	Point to 'oe'. Say: This digraph says u .
England	The 'e' says i .	Point to 'e'. Say: This grapheme says i .
English	The 'e' says i .	Point to 'e'. Say: This grapheme says i .
enough	The 'gh' says f .	Point to 'gh'. Say: This digraph says f .
eye	The 'eye' says igh .	Point to 'eye'. Say: This trigraph says igh .
friend	The 'ie' says e .	Point to 'ie'. Say: This digraph says e .
gone	The 'ne' says n .	Point to 'ne'. Say: This digraph says n .
improve	The 'o' says oo (as in 'food').	Point to 'o'. Say: This grapheme says oo .
island	The 'is' says igh .	Point to 'is'. Say: This digraph says igh .
heart	The 'ear' says ar .	Point to 'ear'. Say: This trigraph says ar .
height	The 'eigh' says igh .	Point to 'eigh'. Say: This grapheme says e .
laugh	The 'au' says ar (or a)*. The 'gh' says f .	Point to 'au'. Say: This digraph says ar (or a)*. Point to 'gh'. Say: This digraph says f .
many	The 'a' says e .	Point to 'a'. Say: This grapheme says e .

*depending on regional accent

Word	Why is it tricky?	How to teach
minute	The 'u' says i .	Point to 'u'. Say: This grapheme says i .
move	The 'o' says oo (as in 'food').	Point to 'o'. Say: This grapheme says oo.
Mr Mrs Ms	These say 'mister', 'missus' and 'muz'.	Point to the word. Say: This tricky word says mister/missus/muz.
once	The 'o' says w u .	Point to 'o'. Say: This grapheme says w u .
people	The 'eo' says ee .	Point to 'eo'. Say: This digraph says ee .
pretty	The 'e' says i .	Point to 'e'. Say: This grapheme says i .
rhyme	The 'me' says m .	Point to 'me'. Say: This digraph says m .
shoe	The 'oe' says oo (as in 'food').	Point to 'oe'. Say: This digraph says oo.
their	The 'eir' says air .	Point to 'eir'. Say: This trigraph says air .
thorough	The 'ough' makes an 'uh' sound.	Point to 'ough'. Say: This grapheme says the schwa sound 'uh'.
though	The 'ough' says oa .	Point to 'ough'. Say: This grapheme says oa .
thought	The 'ough' says or .	Point to 'ough'. Say: This grapheme says or .
through	The 'ough' says oo (as in 'food').	Point to 'ough'. Say: This grapheme says oo.
two	The 'wo' says oo (as in 'food').	Point to 'wo'. Say: This digraph says oo.
Wednesday	The 'dn' says n .	Point to 'dn'. Say: This digraph says dn .
who	The 'wh' says h . The 'o' says oo (as in 'food').	Point to 'wh'. Say: This digraph says h . Point to 'o'. Say: This grapheme says oo.
whole	The 'wh' says h .	Point to 'wh'. Say: This digraph says h .
woman	The 'o' says oo (as in 'book').	Point to 'o'. Say: This grapheme says oo .
women	The 'o' says i .	Point to 'o'. Say: This grapheme says i . Point to the 'e'. Say: This grapheme says i .