

Find the Schwa

Ask your students to read each word and highlight the letters that represent a schwa sound. You could also cut out the words and sort them into groups where the schwa sounds are in similar positions.

We've included some suggested answers on the next page. If some of the words aren't pronounced with a schwa in your accent, tell the children this in advance.

pasta	away	animal	even
angel	freedom	cotton	bulletin
carrot	doctor	alphabet	offend
flower	panda	helmet	thousand
balloon	fossil	cavity	camel
wagon	vitamin	police	eleven
wizard	analysis	dinosaur	gallop
enemy	elastic	banana	problem
possible	octopus	dollar	nickel
fossil	kingdom	razor	telephone
syringe	travel	event	button
present	raisin	carpet	pedal
salad	lentil	vowel	astronaut
the	phantom	disagree	alone
difficult	butter	maggot	below



Find the Schwa

Suggested Answers

Some of the highlighted letters might not represent the schwa sound in some regional accents.

past <u>a</u>	<u>a</u> way	animal	even
ang <u>e</u> l	freed <u>o</u> m	cott <u>o</u> n	bullet <u>i</u> n
carrot	doct <u>o</u> r	alph <u>a</u> bet	off <u>e</u> nd
flow <u>e</u> r	pand <u>a</u>	helm <u>e</u> t	thous <u>a</u> nd
ballo <u>o</u> n	foss <u>i</u> l	cav <u>i</u> ty	cam <u>e</u> l
wag <u>o</u> n	vit <u>a</u> min	pol <u>i</u> ce	ele <u>v</u> en
wiz <u>a</u> rd	anal <u>y</u> sis	dinos <u>a</u> ur	gallo <u>p</u>
en <u>e</u> my	el <u>a</u> stic	ban <u>a</u> na	probl <u>e</u> m
poss <u>i</u> ble	octop <u>u</u> s	doll <u>a</u> r	nick <u>e</u> l
foss <u>i</u> l	kingd <u>o</u> m	raz <u>o</u> r	teleph <u>e</u> ne
sy <u>r</u> inge	trav <u>e</u> l	ev <u>e</u> nt	butt <u>o</u> n
pres <u>e</u> nt	rais <u>i</u> n	carpet	ped <u>a</u> l
sal <u>a</u> d	lent <u>i</u> l	vow <u>e</u> l	astron <u>a</u> ut
th <u>e</u>	phant <u>o</u> m	dis <u>a</u> gree	alon <u>e</u>
diff <u>i</u> cult	butter	magg <u>o</u> t	bel <u>o</u> w

