## Introduction

b and d Reversal

Sometimes, it is hard to remember which letter is " $b$ " and which letter is "d" because they look so very much the same. Both letters have a circle and a straight line, the circle just switches sides for each letter. They are tricky letters!

But, you can learn tricks to outsmart them and remember which one is which. For example, have you ever had trouble remembering which hand is your right and which hand is your left? Most of us do at one time or another (even adults!). Look at the illustration below:

Left hand


If you look at the hands, or your own hands when you hold them the same way, you can see that the left hand forms a letter "L" and the right hand does not. This is one way to help remember which is which.

You can use tricks like this to keep the letters "b" and "d" straight, and you'll soon be able to remember the letters with no problem!


## b and d Reversal Tricks

One way to remember the difference between " $b$ " and " d " is to make a fist with your left hand, with the fingers facing you, and straighten the thumb. The larger, rounder part of your hand looks a little like the circle on the "b," and the thumb sticking up looks like the straight line. Now, do the same thing with your right hand. You've made the letter "d."


But what about remembering which hand is which letter? Think of the word "bed" and a picture of a bed. Your hands are the posts on the bottom, like this:


The letter "b" comes first on the left at the beginning of the word. The letter " $d$ " comes last on the right at the end of the word.

Read these words, and use your hands and the word "bed" to remember which letter is " $b$ " and which letter is "d."

| bad | bin | dog |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| den | dad | but |
| bid | dip | bit |
| bit | did | bun |

## b and d Reversal Tricks

The next trick just uses the alphabet. Think of the letters: " . . . b, c, d . . . " The letter "b" comes first on the left at the beginning. The letter "d" comes last on the right at the end of those letters. At the bottom of the page, write the letters, "b, c, d" in order, with the letters almost touching, like this:


Now, pretend this is a pair of glasses and draw eyes in the "b" and the "d."


Now the circles of the letters "b" and "d" are the lenses in the glasses, and the straight lines are the arms. Since they are in the same order as they are in the alphabet, you know that "b" comes first before "d."

Read these words and think of the alphabet and the glasses to remember which letter is " $b$ " and which letter is "d."

| bag | dot | bat |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| bus | beg | dam |
| dab | bud | dim |
| box | dig | dot |

## b and d Reversal Activities

Look at the pictures below. Cut out each picture and paste it in the box under the letter that the word starts with. Remember your "b" and "d" tricks!


## b and d Reversal Activities

Look at the maze below. There are two ways into the maze; one way for "b," and one way for "d." Look at the picture at the end of the maze. Decide if the word starts with a "b" or "d," and enter the maze there. If you are right, you can find your way through the maze!


## b and d Reversal Activities

Follow the letter "b" through the maze. Start at the arrow and be careful to stay on the letter "b" through the whole maze to reach the picture at the end.

| b | a | a | c | d | b | b | b | e | g | d | b | b | b | b | b |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| b | b | b | d | g | b | a | b | d | s | h | b | a | f | c | b |
| a | c | b | a | b | b | c | b | f | k | c | b | b | b | a | b |
| f | s | b | b | b | d | t | b | d | $f$ | d | c | c | b | f | b |
| k | w | h | r | n | s | h | b | a | b | b | b | j | b | d | b |
| c | i | k | q | m | i | r | b | $x$ | b | d | b | c | b | c | b |
| b | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | e | b | a | b | I | b | d | b |
| b | d | q | a | - | h | r | v | o | b | d | b | p | b | i | b |
| b | j | c | v | j | c | y | $c$ | j | b | c | b | d | b | c | b |
| b | b | b | b | b |  | b | b | b | b | p | b | g | b | n | b |
| q | d | c | u | - | a | f | p | e | a | t | b | a | b | c | b |
| a | m | z | k | 1 | y | b | b | b | b | b | b | d | b | u | b |
| d | a | b | b | b | b | b | d | h | d | d | z | a | b | d | b |
| n | d | b | x | c | m | a | d | z | c | d | y | t | b | a | b |
| c | d | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | b | w | b |

