

Onomatopoeia Vocabulary:

snap – a short, sharp sound like when something breaks or when you rub your fingers together in a quick, sharp way

crackle - a series of short, sharp noises like when a fire burns or when lightning cuts through the sky

pop – a short, loud noise when a bubble breaks or when popcorn or fireworks explode

splash – the sound made when moving through water in a noisy, messy way

plop – the sound made when something drops into liquid

blub – the sound bubbles of air make when coming to the surface or the way people sound if they try to talk or breathe underwater, many children's books have this as the sound a fish makes

gallumph – the sound made when a heavy animal gallops

boing – the sound made by a spring or when something springs, Tigger boings as he bounces.

5 Examples of Onomatopoeia <http://examples.yourdictionary.com/5-examples-of-onomatopoeia.html>

The concept of onomatopoeia words can be difficult to understand without examples. Examples give you the chance to better understand the onomatopoeia concept and to see and sound out actual words.

This article lists five categories of onomatopoeic words with several examples of each. The list includes words with letter combinations that are commonly used to represent certain sounds. It isn't an exhaustive list of onomatopoeic words, but it's a good start to understand the onomatopoeia concept.

Common Onomatopoeia Letter Combinations

Many times, you can tell what an onomatopoeic word is describing based on letter combinations contained within the word. These combinations usually come at the beginning, but a few also come at the end.

The following examples have been grouped according to how they are used.

1. **Words Related to Water** – These words often begin with sp- or dr-. Words that indicate a small amount of liquid often end in -le (sprinkle/drizzle).

- bloop
- splash
- spray
- sprinkle
- squirt
- drip
- drizzle

An onomatopoeia poem by Lee Emmett of Australia also illustrates many onomatopoeia related to water:

water plops into pond	whoosh, passing breeze
splish-splash downhill	flags flutter and flap
warbling magpies in tree	frog croaks, bird whistles
trilling, melodic thrill	babbling bubbles from tap

2. **Words Related to the Voice** – Sounds that come from the back of the throat tend to start with a gr- sound whereas sounds that come out of the mouth through the lips, tongue and teeth begin with mu-.

- giggle
- grunt
- mumble
- bawl
- chatter
- growl
- gurgle
- murmur
- belch
- blurt

3. **Words Related to Collisions** – Collisions can occur between any two or more objects. Sounds that begin with cl- usually indicate collisions between metal or glass objects, and words that end in -ng are sounds that resonate. Words that begin with th- usually describe dull sounds like soft but heavy things hitting wood or earth.

- bam
- bang
- clang
- clank
- clap
- clatter
- click
- clink
- ding
- jingle
- screech
- slap
- thud
- thump

4. **Words Related to Air** – Because air doesn't really make a sound unless it blows through something, these words describe the sounds of air blowing through things or of things rushing through the air. 'Whisper' is on this list and not the voice list because we do not use our voices to whisper. We only use the air from our lungs and the position of our teeth, lips and tongues to form audible words.

- flutter
- fisst
- fwoosh
- gasp
- swish
- swoosh
- whiff
- whoosh
- whizz
- whip
- whisper

5. **Animal Sounds** – If you've spent significant amounts of time with people from other countries, you know that [animals speak different languages](#) too. Depending on where a chicken is from, for example, she might cluck-cluck, bok-bok, tok-tok, kot-kot or cotcotcodet. In the United States, however, animals speak English:

- | | | | | |
|--------|-----------|------------|---------|----------|
| • arf | • buzz | • cock-a- | • maa | • quack |
| • baa | • cheep | doodle-doo | • moo | • ribbit |
| • bark | • chirp | • cuckoo | • neigh | • tweet |
| • blub | • chortle | • hiss | • oink | • warble |
| • bray | • cluck | • meow | • purr | • woof |

6. **Miscellaneous Examples** – Onomatopoeia can also be found in literature, songs and advertisements as well. Consider the following examples of onomatopoeia:

- "Chug, chug, chug. Puff, puff, puff. Ding-dong, ding-dong. The little train rumbled over the tracks." ("Watty Piper" [Arnold Munk], The Little Engine That Could)
- "Plop, plop, fizz, fizz, oh what a relief it is." (slogan of Alka Seltzer, U.S.)

"Onomatopoeia every time I see ya
My senses tell me hubba
And I just can't disagree.
I get a feeling in my heart that I can't
describe. . .
It's sort of whack, whir, wheeze, whine
Sputter, splat, squirt, scrape
Clink, clank, clunk, clatter

Crash, bang, beep, buzz
Ring, rip, roar, retch
Twang, toot, tinkle, thud
Pop, plop, plunk, pow
Snort, snuck, sniff, smack
Screech, splash, squish, squeak
Jingle, rattle, squeal, boing
Honk, hoot, hack, belch."
(Todd Rundgren, "Onomatopoeia")

What Is Onomatopoeia?

The word 'onomatopoeia' comes from the combination of two Greek words, one meaning 'name' and the other meaning 'I make,' so onomatopoeia literally means 'the name (or sound) I make.' That is to say that the word means nothing more than the sound it makes. 'Boing,' for example, means nothing more than what it sounds like. It is only a sound effect.

Many onomatopoeic words have come to mean other things related to the sounds they make. 'Slap,' for instance, not only means the sound that is made by skin hitting skin, but also the action of hitting someone (usually on the face) with an open hand. 'Rustle' is the sound of papers brushing together, but it also indicates the action of someone moving papers around and causing them to brush together, thus making this noise. And of course, '[twitter](#)' is now much more than just the sound birds make.

Reviewing examples of [onomatopoeia](#) words and their various sound categories is an excellent way to learn to recognize and understand onomatopoeic words. Look for the patterns that almost always exist, and if you ever have a question about what an onomatopoeic word means, just ask yourself, 'What does it sound like?'

Number roots

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numeral_prefix

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Greek_and_Latin_roots_in_English#P

1	uni-, mono-, sim- or sin-, prim-	6	sexa-, sexta-, hexa-
2	bi-, di-, du-	7	sept-, hept-
3	tri-, tris-, ter-, terti-	8	oct-
4	quad-, quart-, tetra-	9	nov-, nona-
5	quin-, penta-	10	dec-