

free foundations glued sounds worksheets

Unlocking Early Literacy: Your Guide to Free Foundations Glued Sounds Worksheets

Mastering early literacy skills is a cornerstone of a child's educational journey, and understanding phonics, particularly glued sounds, is a crucial step. For parents, educators, and homeschoolers seeking effective and accessible resources, free foundations glued sounds worksheets offer an invaluable tool. These worksheets are specifically designed to help young learners identify, blend, and segment words containing common glued sound combinations, such as "all," "am," "an," "ang," "ank," "ing," "ink," "ong," "onk," "ung," and "unk." This comprehensive guide will delve into the importance of glued sounds, explore various types of free resources available, and provide practical tips for utilizing these worksheets to foster strong reading and spelling abilities. Discover how these targeted exercises can build a solid foundation for your child's literacy success, making learning engaging and effective.

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The Significance of Glued Sounds in Early Reading

The journey to becoming a proficient reader is a multi-faceted one, and foundational phonics skills play an undeniably critical role. Among these, the concept of glued sounds, also known as “chunking” or “word families,” is particularly important for young learners. Glued sounds are groups of letters that, when placed together, produce a consistent sound that can be challenging for beginner readers to decode if approached as individual sounds. By recognizing these common patterns, children can more efficiently blend sounds to read words and accurately segment sounds to spell them. This mastery significantly accelerates their reading fluency and comprehension, setting them on a path for greater academic achievement.

Teaching glued sounds helps children move beyond simply sounding out each letter in a word. Instead, they learn to recognize and pronounce these sound chunks as a unit. This process is akin to learning sight words, but with a systematic phonetic approach. For example, recognizing the “all” sound in words like “ball,” “tall,” and “fall” allows a child to quickly decode multiple words by simply changing the initial consonant sound. This efficiency is vital for building confidence and reducing the cognitive load involved in reading. Without a solid understanding of these common letter combinations and their associated sounds, children may struggle with decoding longer or more complex words, leading to frustration and a potential disengagement from reading.

The development of phonological awareness, which includes the ability to identify and manipulate sounds in spoken words, is deeply intertwined with understanding glued sounds. When children can hear and recognize the consistent sound of a glued unit within different words, they are developing a crucial auditory skill. This auditory processing then translates into visual recognition on the page. Therefore, targeted practice with resources like free foundations glued sounds worksheets directly supports the development of this essential phonological awareness, making them indispensable tools for early literacy instruction.

What are Glued Sounds?

Glued sounds represent specific letter combinations in the English language that, when joined together, create a distinct and consistent sound. Unlike digraphs (two letters that make one sound, like “sh” or “th”), glued sounds typically involve a vowel followed by a nasal consonant (m or n) or the letter “l.” These combinations often appear at the end of words and can be tricky for emerging readers because the sounds can seem to “stick” or “glue”

together, making them harder to segment as individual phonemes. Common examples include the "-all" family, the "-am" family, the "-an" family, and the "-ang" family, among others.

The most common glued sounds are:

- -all (e.g., ball, tall, fall)
- -am (e.g., ham, jam, ram)
- -an (e.g., fan, can, pan)
- -ang (e.g., fang, pang, rang)
- -ank (e.g., bank, tank, thank)
- -ing (e.g., sing, ring, king)
- -ink (e.g., pink, sink, wink)
- -ong (e.g., song, long, strong)
- -onk (e.g., honk, bonk, plonk)
- -ung (e.g., sung, hung, flung)
- -unk (e.g., sunk, bunk, trunk)

Understanding these patterns allows children to build a repertoire of word recognition strategies. When a child encounters a new word containing a familiar glued sound, they can readily apply their knowledge to decode it. For instance, if a child knows the sound of "-ink," they can easily read words like "pink," "sink," and "wink" by simply adding the initial consonant sound. This systematic approach to word decoding is far more efficient than trying to sound out every single letter in isolation, especially for words that follow these common patterns. The consistency of these sounds makes them excellent building blocks for early readers.

Why are Free Foundations Glued Sounds Worksheets Essential?

Free foundations glued sounds worksheets are essential tools for developing crucial early literacy skills in a targeted and effective manner. They provide structured practice that helps young learners internalize the consistent sounds of these letter combinations. This systematic approach to

phonics instruction builds a strong foundation for reading and spelling, making the decoding process less laborious and more fluid. By repeatedly engaging with words containing glued sounds through these worksheets, children develop automaticity, a key component of reading fluency.

One of the primary reasons for their importance lies in their ability to foster decoding skills. When children learn to recognize glued sounds as single units, they can more easily blend the sounds in a word. For example, instead of sounding out /b/ /a/ /l/ /l/, a child who understands the "-all" glued sound can simply blend /b/ + /all/ to arrive at "ball." This efficiency is paramount for building reading confidence and preventing the frustration that can arise from slow and laborious decoding. Worksheets offer a controlled environment for this practice, allowing educators and parents to introduce and reinforce these sounds systematically.

Furthermore, glued sounds worksheets are instrumental in developing spelling abilities. The ability to segment words into their constituent sounds, including glued sound units, is directly linked to accurate spelling. When a child hears the word "song," they need to recognize the "-ong" glued sound to spell it correctly. These worksheets provide opportunities for children to practice identifying these sounds in isolation and then applying them in writing. This dual benefit of improving both reading and spelling makes them indispensable for comprehensive early literacy instruction.

Accessibility is another significant advantage. The availability of free resources means that high-quality literacy support is within reach for everyone, regardless of budget. This democratization of educational tools ensures that all children have the opportunity to develop the essential skills needed for academic success. These worksheets act as a bridge, connecting phonetic principles to practical application, empowering young learners to become more confident and competent readers and writers.

Types of Free Foundations Glued Sounds Worksheets

A wide array of free foundations glued sounds worksheets are available, catering to different learning styles and skill levels. These resources are designed to make the learning process interactive and effective, reinforcing the recognition and application of glued sound patterns. By offering diverse activities, educators and parents can keep children engaged while ensuring thorough practice of these critical phonics components.

Phoneme Isolation and Identification Worksheets

These worksheets focus on helping children identify specific glued sounds

within words. Activities might include circling words that contain a particular glued sound (e.g., circling all words with "-ank"), or listening to a word and identifying whether a specific glued sound is present. This foundational practice helps children tune their auditory skills to recognize these sound units.

Blending Worksheets

Blending worksheets are crucial for developing reading fluency. Children are often presented with individual sounds, including a consonant sound and a glued sound chunk, and are asked to blend them together to form a word. For example, a worksheet might present "b" + "-all" and the child writes "ball." This systematic practice builds the automaticity needed for reading.

Segmenting Worksheets

The counterpart to blending, segmenting worksheets help children break down words into their individual sounds, including the glued sound. This is vital for spelling. Activities might involve listening to a word like "sing" and writing the individual sounds, ensuring they capture the "s" and the "-ing" glued sound. These often involve sound boxes or simply writing the sounds down.

Word Families and Sorting Activities

These worksheets group words by their shared glued sound. Children might be asked to sort words into categories based on their glued sound families (e.g., putting "ball," "tall," and "fall" into the "-all" category). This reinforces the concept of word patterns and helps children see the commonalities between words.

Sentence Completion and Reading Comprehension

Once children have a grasp of recognizing and blending glued sounds, more advanced worksheets can incorporate these sounds into sentences. Activities might involve filling in the blanks in sentences with appropriate words containing glued sounds, or reading short passages that are rich in words with these patterns. This application reinforces the practical use of learned phonics skills.

Matching Activities

Matching worksheets often pair images with words containing glued sounds, or they might pair the glued sound chunk with words that contain it. For example, a picture of a "tank" might be matched to the word "tank," which is

then associated with the "-ank" glued sound.

How to Effectively Use Free Foundations Glued Sounds Worksheets

Maximizing the benefit of free foundations glued sounds worksheets requires a strategic and engaging approach. It's not simply about completing the exercises, but about fostering a deep understanding and internalizing the patterns. This involves preparing the learning environment, introducing concepts clearly, and making the practice session interactive and encouraging. The goal is to build confidence and competence, ensuring that children truly grasp the mechanics of reading and spelling with glued sounds.

Before diving into the worksheets, it's beneficial to introduce the concept of glued sounds in a multisensory way. This could involve clapping out the sounds, using manipulatives like letter tiles, or singing songs that highlight these sound patterns. When presenting a new glued sound, clearly articulate the sound of the combination and then demonstrate how it blends with initial consonant sounds to form words. For instance, show how "m" + "-all" makes "mall." This pre-worksheet introduction can significantly enhance a child's comprehension and readiness for the written activities.

When working through the worksheets, encourage children to articulate the sounds aloud. This verbalization helps reinforce the connection between the written letters and their corresponding sounds. For blending activities, guide them to say the initial consonant, then the glued sound chunk, and finally blend them together smoothly. For segmenting, prompt them to listen carefully to the word and break it down into its component sounds, ensuring they capture the entire glued sound unit. Avoid rushing through the process; allow ample time for each child to process and respond.

Provide positive reinforcement and constructive feedback. Celebrate successes, no matter how small, to build confidence. If a child struggles with a particular word or sound, gently guide them back to the concept without making them feel discouraged. For example, if they misread "sang," you could say, "Let's look at that sound together. Remember the '-ang' family? What sound does that make? Now, what sound does the first letter make? Let's put them together." This supportive approach encourages perseverance and a growth mindset.

Vary the types of worksheets used to maintain engagement and address different aspects of glued sound mastery. Alternate between blending, segmenting, matching, and word family activities to provide a well-rounded practice. It's also important to keep practice sessions relatively short, especially for younger children, to prevent fatigue and maintain focus. Integrating these worksheets into a broader literacy program that includes

reading aloud, interactive games, and other phonics activities will yield the best results.

Finding and Accessing High-Quality Free Glued Sounds Resources

The landscape of educational resources is vast, and finding high-quality free foundations glued sounds worksheets requires knowing where to look and what to prioritize. Fortunately, numerous online platforms and educational organizations offer excellent, free materials that can significantly support a child's literacy development. The key is to identify reputable sources that provide accurately designed and engaging content.

Educational blogs and websites are a primary source for free printables. Many teachers and curriculum developers share their resources freely to support the broader educational community. Websites that specialize in early childhood education, K-3 literacy, or homeschooling often have dedicated sections for phonics worksheets. Searching for terms like "free glued sounds printables," "printable word families worksheets," or "early phonics resources" can yield many relevant results. Look for sites that are well-organized and clearly state their educational objectives.

Online teacher marketplaces also often feature free samples. Platforms like Teachers Pay Teachers, while primarily a commercial site, have a significant number of free resources uploaded by educators. By filtering searches for "free" and specific keywords like "glued sounds," you can discover a wealth of high-quality worksheets, often designed with engaging graphics and clear instructions.

Educational non-profit organizations and literacy initiatives are another excellent avenue. Many of these groups are dedicated to promoting literacy and provide free resources as part of their mission. Their materials are often research-based and designed by experts in early childhood education. Staying updated with newsletters or following social media accounts of these organizations can alert you to new free offerings.

When selecting free worksheets, consider the following criteria to ensure quality:

- **Clarity of Instructions:** Are the instructions easy for a child to understand, or do they require significant adult interpretation?
- **Accuracy of Content:** Do the worksheets accurately represent the phonetic principles they aim to teach?
- **Engagement Factor:** Are the worksheets visually appealing and likely to

hold a child's attention? Do they include images or interactive elements?

- **Appropriateness of Difficulty:** Is the level of challenge suitable for the intended age group and their current skill level?
- **Variety of Activities:** Does the resource offer a range of activities to reinforce different aspects of glued sound learning?
- **Print Quality:** Are the worksheets designed for clear printing, with legible fonts and well-defined graphics?

By diligently searching and applying these criteria, you can curate a valuable collection of free foundations glued sounds worksheets that will significantly contribute to a child's literacy journey. The accessibility of these resources empowers educators and parents to provide targeted support without financial constraints.

Benefits of Consistent Practice with Glued Sounds Worksheets

The consistent application of free foundations glued sounds worksheets yields a multitude of benefits that extend far beyond simply recognizing a few letter patterns. Regular practice is the cornerstone of skill mastery, transforming rudimentary phonics knowledge into robust reading and spelling proficiency. These benefits contribute significantly to a child's overall academic development and confidence.

Firstly, consistent practice enhances reading fluency. As children become more adept at recognizing and decoding words containing glued sounds, they can read more smoothly and with greater speed. This reduces the cognitive effort required for reading, allowing them to focus more on comprehension. Instead of laboring over individual sounds, they can process entire word units, leading to a more enjoyable and efficient reading experience.

Secondly, these worksheets significantly improve spelling accuracy. The ability to segment words into their phonemes, including the predictable units of glued sounds, is directly transferable to spelling. Children who regularly practice segmenting and writing words with glued sounds develop a stronger understanding of sound-letter correspondences, which is crucial for encoding words correctly. This leads to fewer spelling errors and increased confidence in their written work.

Furthermore, consistent practice builds phonological awareness. The repeated exposure to glued sound patterns strengthens a child's ability to hear,

identify, and manipulate sounds within words. This heightened auditory discrimination is a fundamental skill that underpins success in all areas of literacy, including reading comprehension and vocabulary acquisition.

Moreover, regular engagement with these worksheets fosters confidence and a positive attitude towards learning. As children experience success in decoding and spelling words with glued sounds, their self-esteem grows. They begin to view reading and writing as achievable and enjoyable activities, rather than daunting challenges. This intrinsic motivation is vital for lifelong learning.

Finally, consistent practice helps children build a strong foundation for tackling more complex words and phonetic patterns. Glued sounds are a common feature in the English language, and mastering them provides a solid stepping stone for learning about vowel teams, diphthongs, and other more intricate word structures. This systematic progression ensures a comprehensive understanding of phonics, preparing them for advanced literacy skills.

Tips for Engaging Children with Glued Sounds Activities

Making the learning process enjoyable is key to sustained engagement and effective acquisition of skills, particularly with foundational concepts like glued sounds. Free foundations glued sounds worksheets, while inherently valuable, can be even more impactful when presented in an engaging and interactive manner. Here are several tips to help keep children motivated and focused during these activities.

Make it a Game

Transform worksheet completion into a game. This could involve a point system for correctly identifying or blending sounds, a race against the clock for segmenting words, or a "find the hidden word" activity where words with specific glued sounds are scattered on the page. Games make learning feel less like a chore and more like fun.

Incorporate Multisensory Approaches

While worksheets are visual, incorporating other senses can deepen understanding. For example, after identifying a glued sound on a worksheet, have the child trace the letters in sand, build the word with magnetic letters, or draw a picture representing a word with that glued sound. This multisensory reinforcement helps cement the learning.

Connect to Real-World Examples

Show children how glued sounds appear in their everyday lives. Point out words with "-all" on signs, in books they enjoy, or when talking about common objects. For instance, if they are working on "-ank," you could discuss how a "tank" can hold water or that a bank is where you keep money. Real-world connections make the learning relevant.

Use Visual Aids and Manipulatives

Supplement worksheets with visual aids like flashcards displaying glued sound patterns, or manipulatives such as letter tiles or building blocks. Children can physically arrange letters to form words with glued sounds, strengthening their understanding through tactile interaction.

Offer Choices

Whenever possible, give children some control over the learning process. Perhaps they can choose which set of glued sound words to focus on for the day, or which type of worksheet they prefer to complete. Offering choices can increase their sense of ownership and engagement.

Celebrate Progress

Acknowledge and praise effort and progress. Positive reinforcement is crucial. Create a sticker chart for completed worksheets, offer small rewards for mastering a new glued sound family, or simply provide enthusiastic verbal praise. This positive feedback loop encourages continued effort.

Keep Sessions Short and Focused

Young children have shorter attention spans. Break down the practice into manageable segments. Instead of a long, intensive session, opt for several shorter, focused activities throughout the day or week. This approach helps maintain engagement and prevents burnout.

By employing these strategies, educators and parents can transform the often-routine task of worksheet completion into an dynamic and enjoyable learning experience, ensuring that children not only complete the exercises but also truly grasp and retain the vital concepts of glued sounds.

Beyond Worksheets: Complementary Strategies for

Glued Sounds

While free foundations glued sounds worksheets are excellent tools, they are most effective when integrated into a broader literacy program. A holistic approach that incorporates various activities can significantly enhance a child's understanding and application of glued sounds. These complementary strategies provide different avenues for learning and reinforce the concepts presented in worksheets, making the learning experience richer and more comprehensive.

Read Alouds with Targeted Focus

When reading aloud to children, make a conscious effort to point out words that contain glued sounds. For instance, when you encounter "ball" in a story, you can pause and say, "Look, this word has the 'all' sound, just like we practice!" This provides real-world context and demonstrates how these patterns appear in authentic reading material. Encourage the child to chime in when they recognize a glued sound.

Interactive Games and Digital Resources

Many online platforms and educational apps offer engaging games focused on phonics and word families, including glued sounds. These digital tools often provide immediate feedback and can be highly motivating for children. Games that involve matching, sorting, or building words with glued sounds can reinforce the skills learned from worksheets in a fun, interactive way.

Word Building with Manipulatives

Utilizing physical manipulatives like letter tiles, magnetic letters, or even building blocks with letters on them can be incredibly beneficial. Children can physically construct words containing glued sounds, such as building "sing" by combining "s" + "i" + "n" + "g" or recognizing that "s" + "ing" makes the word. This tactile approach helps solidify their understanding of sound-letter relationships.

Creating Anchor Charts and Word Walls

Collaboratively create anchor charts or word walls dedicated to specific glued sound families. For the "-all" family, you could include words like "ball," "tall," "fall," "call," and "small," perhaps with accompanying pictures. These visual references serve as constant reminders and learning aids, reinforcing patterns throughout the learning environment.

Rhyming and Song Activities

Rhyming is closely linked to phonological awareness and helps children identify sound patterns. Singing songs that feature words with consistent glued sounds or engaging in rhyming games can make learning fun and memorable. For example, a song about animals might prominently feature words ending in "-ing" or "-ong."

Storytelling and Creative Writing

Encourage children to create their own stories or sentences using words with glued sounds. This not only applies their knowledge but also boosts their creativity and writing skills. Providing them with prompts like "Write a short story about a king and a ring" can guide their efforts and make the application of glued sounds a creative endeavor.

By combining the targeted practice offered by free foundations glued sounds worksheets with these diverse and engaging strategies, you create a rich learning environment that supports deep understanding and long-term retention of essential early literacy skills.

Conclusion: Building a Strong Literacy Foundation with Free Glued Sounds Worksheets

In conclusion, free foundations glued sounds worksheets are indispensable resources for cultivating early literacy skills. They provide structured, focused practice that empowers young learners to master critical phonics components like "all," "am," "an," "ang," "ank," "ing," "ink," "ong," "onk," "ung," and "unk." By helping children recognize and blend these consistent sound patterns, these worksheets significantly enhance reading fluency, spelling accuracy, and overall phonological awareness. The accessibility of these free materials democratizes learning, ensuring that all children have the opportunity to build a robust foundation for future academic success.

Effectively utilizing these worksheets involves introducing concepts clearly, making practice engaging through games and multisensory approaches, and celebrating progress. Complementary strategies such as read-alouds, interactive games, and word-building activities further strengthen understanding. Consistent practice with these foundational elements is not merely about decoding words; it's about fostering a love for reading and writing, building confidence, and equipping children with the essential tools they need to navigate the complexities of language. Investing time in these targeted exercises, readily available as free foundations glued sounds worksheets, lays a solid groundwork for a lifetime of learning and achievement.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are 'foundations glued sounds' and why are they important?

Foundations glued sounds are consonant clusters (like 'all', 'ang', 'ick', 'ock', 'uck') that are taught as a single sound unit in the Foundations phonics program. They are important for decoding and encoding words accurately, as they help students recognize and pronounce these common sound combinations.

Where can I find free Foundations glued sounds worksheets?

You can find free Foundations glued sounds worksheets from various educational resource websites, teacher blogs, and platforms like Teachers Pay Teachers (where many educators offer free sample resources). Searching for 'free Foundations glued sounds worksheets' on Google or your preferred search engine will yield many options.

What skills do Foundations glued sounds worksheets typically help develop?

These worksheets primarily help develop phonemic awareness (identifying and manipulating sounds), phonics skills (connecting sounds to letters), word recognition, spelling, and reading fluency. They often involve activities like identifying glued sounds in words, blending sounds to read words, and segmenting words into sounds for spelling.

Are there specific grade levels or learning stages that benefit most from Foundations glued sounds worksheets?

Foundations glued sounds are typically introduced in Kindergarten and First Grade as part of foundational reading instruction. Therefore, worksheets focusing on these sounds are most beneficial for students in these early elementary grades, or for older students who need remediation in this area.

What types of activities are commonly found on free Foundations glued sounds worksheets?

Common activities include: matching glued sounds to pictures, circling words containing specific glued sounds, filling in missing glued sounds in words, word sorts based on glued sounds, and simple sentence reading or writing activities incorporating words with glued sounds.

How can parents or guardians use free Foundations glued sounds worksheets at home?

Parents can use these worksheets to supplement classroom learning. They can sit with their child, guide them through the activities, and practice saying the sounds and words aloud. It's a great way to reinforce the concepts taught in school and provide extra practice.

Are the free worksheets always aligned with the official Foundations curriculum?

While many free resources are created by educators familiar with Foundations, they may not be directly aligned with every specific aspect or progression of the official curriculum. It's always a good idea to check if the skills covered match what your child is currently learning in their Foundations class.

What are some examples of 'glued sounds' taught in Foundations?

The most common Foundations glued sounds include: -all (ball), -ang (sang), -ing (sing), -ong (song), -ung (sung), -ank (bank), -ink (pink), -onk (bonk), -unk (trunk), -am (ham), -an (pan), -ap (map), -at (cat), -ed (bed), -en (hen), -et (net), -ig (pig), -in (pin), -it (sit), -og (dog), -op (top), -ot (hot), -ug (bug), -un (run), -ut (cut). The specific set can vary slightly depending on the Foundations level.

Besides worksheets, are there other free resources for practicing Foundations glued sounds?

Yes, beyond worksheets, you can find free online games, interactive activities, videos, and flashcards that focus on Foundations glued sounds. Many phonics-focused apps and websites also offer content that covers these specific sound patterns.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to free foundational glued sounds worksheets, with descriptions:

1. The Phonogram Powerhouse: Mastering Glued Sounds. This book dives deep into the science and pedagogy behind teaching glued sounds. It offers a comprehensive approach, explaining how to introduce, practice, and reinforce these essential phonics components. Readers will find strategies for engaging young learners and assessing their progress effectively.
2. Sound Builders: A Practical Guide to Glued Sounds. Designed for

educators and parents, this guide provides a step-by-step framework for teaching glued sounds. It emphasizes hands-on activities and multisensory approaches to make learning fun and effective. The book includes reproducible activities that can be easily adapted for various learning needs.

3. _Decoding Delight: Glued Sounds in Action_. This resource focuses on practical application of glued sounds in reading and spelling. It offers a wealth of engaging activities, games, and sentence-building exercises that solidify understanding. The book aims to build confidence in early readers as they master this crucial phonics skill.

4. _Foundational Phonics Fun: Glued Sound Adventures_. This playful book makes learning glued sounds an exciting journey. It features colorful illustrations and interactive exercises that capture children's attention. The content is structured to gradually introduce different glued sound combinations, building a strong foundation for literacy.

5. _The Glued Sound Gym: Building Reading Strength_. This book acts as a training manual for developing strong phonics skills, specifically focusing on glued sounds. It provides a series of targeted drills and practice opportunities designed to build automaticity and fluency. The program is structured for progressive skill development and reinforcement.

6. _Unlocking Words: The Glued Sound Connection_. This book explores the crucial role glued sounds play in unlocking word recognition and spelling. It offers clear explanations and a variety of practice materials to help children connect these sound patterns to written words. The resource emphasizes understanding the "why" behind glued sounds for deeper learning.

7. _Early Literacy Essentials: Mastering Glued Sounds_. This book covers fundamental phonics skills, with a significant emphasis on glued sounds. It presents a structured curriculum with reproducible worksheets and activities suitable for kindergarten and first grade. The book aims to provide educators with a reliable and comprehensive resource for this key skill.

8. _From Sounds to Sight Words: Glued Sound Mastery_. This resource bridges the gap between understanding individual sounds and recognizing sight words. It offers targeted practice with glued sounds, demonstrating how they contribute to decoding common words. The book includes strategies for building vocabulary and comprehension through phonics.

9. _The Phonics Playground: Glued Sound Games and Activities_. This book offers a playful and interactive approach to learning glued sounds. It is packed with engaging games, crafts, and movement-based activities that make practice enjoyable. The focus is on creating a positive and memorable learning experience for young children.

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