

القاعدة النورانية

Noorani Qaida

A complete beginner's workbook for kids and adults
16 lessons from the Arabic alphabet to fluent Quran reading

English instructions

Teacher tips on every page

Progress tracker

Free to print for home, masjid and classroom use.

Read right to left

Arabic starts on the right side of the page. Every grid in this book is read from the top right corner, moving left.

Little and often

Fifteen minutes a day works far better than one long session on the weekend. Most children finish this book in six to eight months with daily practice, and most adults in three to five.

Do not skip the practice pages

Lessons 6, 9, 11 and 13 to 16 are real words from the Quran. They are where reading actually clicks.

Colors used



Red letters are heavy letters, read with a full mouth.



Blue letters in Lesson 10 bounce when silent (qalqalah).

What is inside

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A book can show the letters, but only a listening teacher can correct pronunciation. Pair this workbook with a qualified teacher, even for a few sessions a week.

Read every letter by its name, right to left, starting at the top right. Letters in red are the seven heavy letters. Say them with a full, deep mouth.

ح Haa	ج Jeem	ث Thaa	ت Taa	ب Baa	ا Alif
س Seen	ز Zaay	ر Raa	ذ Dhaal	د Daal	خ Khaa
ع 'Ayn	ظ Zaa	ط Taa	ض Daad	ص Saad	ش Sheen
م Meem	ل Laam	ك Kaaf	ق Qaaf	ف Faa	غ Ghayn
	ي Yaa	ء Hamzah	ه Haa	و Waaw	ن Noon

Teacher tip: Aim for five clean letters a day rather than the whole chart at once. Stop the moment a letter sounds like its neighbor (ح and س, ت and ه, ص and ط) and repeat just that pair.

Most letters change shape depending on where they sit in a word. Six letters (ا د ذ ز و) never join to the letter after them, so they only have two shapes.

Letter	End	Middle	Start	Alone
Alif	ا	ا	ا	ا
Baa	ب	ب	ب	ب
Taa	ت	ت	ت	ت
Thaa	ث	ث	ث	ث
Jeem	ج	ج	ج	ج
Haa	ح	ح	ح	ح
Khaa	خ	خ	خ	خ
Daal	د	د	د	د
Dhaal	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ
Raa	ر	ر	ر	ر
Zaay	ز	ز	ز	ز
Seen	س	س	س	س
Sheen	ش	ش	ش	ش
Ṣaad	ص	ص	ص	ص
Ḍaad	ض	ض	ض	ض
Ṭaa	ط	ط	ط	ط
Ẓaa	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ
‘Ayn	ع	ع	ع	ع
Ghayn	غ	غ	غ	غ
Faa	ف	ف	ف	ف
Qaaf	ق	ق	ق	ق
Kaaf	ك	ك	ك	ك
Laam	ل	ل	ل	ل
Meem	م	م	م	م
Noon	ن	ن	ن	ن
Waaw	و	و	و	و
Haa	ه	ه	ه	ه
Yaa	ي	ي	ي	ي

Teacher tip: Cover the Alone column with a card and ask your child to name each letter from its joined shape. This is the step that makes real Quran pages readable later.

Read each group letter by letter, saying the name of every letter you see. Do not add vowels yet.

حخ	جح	ثج	تث	بت	اب
سش	زس	رز	ذر	دذ	خد
عغ	ظع	طظ	ضط	صض	شص
من	لم	كل	قك	فق	غف
في	كل	لا	هي	وه	نو
علم	بين	قل	عم	لك	نص
			حمد	نور	رب

Teacher tip: Point under each letter with a pencil while reading. Tracking with a finger or pencil keeps young readers from skipping letters inside a joined group.

Lesson 3

Disjoined Letters

Huroof Muqatta'at · the mystery letters

Twenty nine surahs open with these letters. They are read by their names, not joined into a word. The wavy sign above some of them means the sound is stretched.

الر

Alif Laam Raa

المص

Alif Laam Meem Saad

الم

Alif Laam Meem

طه

Taa Haa

كهيعص

Kaaf Haa Yaa 'Ayn Saad

الر

Alif Laam Meem Raa

يس

Yaa Seen

طس

Taa Seen

طسم

Taa Seen Meem

عسق

'Ayn Seen Qaaf

حم

Haa Meem

ص

Saad

ن

Noon

ق

Qaaf

Teacher tip: Show where each one appears in the mushaf, for example Yaa Seen at the start of Surah Yaseen. Children remember them faster once they have seen them on a real page.

A small stroke above the letter (fatha) gives an a sound. A stroke below (kasra) gives an i sound. A small waaw shape above (damma) gives a u sound. Keep each sound short and crisp.

بُ ba بِ bi بِ bu

بُ	بِ	بِ	أُ	إِ	أِ
ثُ	ثِ	ثِ	تُ	تِ	تِ
حُ	حِ	حِ	جُ	جِ	جِ
دُ	دِ	دِ	خُ	خِ	خِ
رُ	رِ	رِ	ذُ	ذِ	ذِ
سُ	سِ	سِ	زُ	زِ	زِ
صُ	صِ	صِ	شُ	شِ	شِ
طُ	طِ	طِ	ضُ	ضِ	ضِ
عُ	عِ	عِ	ظُ	ظِ	ظِ
فُ	فِ	فِ	غُ	غِ	غِ
كُ	كِ	كِ	قُ	قِ	قِ
مُ	مِ	مِ	لُ	لِ	لِ
وُ	وِ	وِ	نُ	نِ	نِ
يُ	يِ	يِ	هُ	هِ	هِ

Teacher tip: Heavy letters keep their deep sound even with kasra. Listen for خِ and قِ in particular; they should never sound thin.

When a vowel is written twice, add a soft n sound at the end: an, in, un. With the double fatha an extra alif is usually written after the letter. That alif is silent here.

بُ bun بٍ bin باً ban

بُ	بٍ	باءُ	ءُ	ءٍ	ءًا
ثُ	ثٍ	ثاءُ	تُ	تٍ	تًا
حُ	حٍ	حاءُ	جُ	جٍ	جًا
دُ	دٍ	دًا	خُ	خٍ	خًا
رُ	رٍ	راءُ	ذُ	ذٍ	ذًا
سُ	سٍ	ساءُ	زُ	زٍ	زًا
صُ	صٍ	صًا	شُ	شٍ	شًا
طُ	طٍ	طاءُ	ضُ	ضٍ	ضًا
عُ	عٍ	عًا	ظُ	ظٍ	ظًا
فُ	فٍ	فاءُ	غُ	غٍ	غًا
كُ	كٍ	كًا	قُ	قٍ	قًا
مُ	مٍ	مًا	لُ	لٍ	لًا
وُ	وٍ	واءُ	نُ	نٍ	نًا
يُ	يٍ	ياءُ	هُ	هٍ	هًا

Teacher tip: The n in tanween is light. If your child says a long heavy nnn, ask them to tap the table once for each sound so the ending stays short.

Every word here uses only what you have learned so far. Read slowly letter by letter first, then read the whole word in one breath.

فَتَحَ

ذَهَبَ

نَصَرَ

خَلَقَ

أَمَرَ

صَدَقَ

كَتَبَ

جَعَلَ

سُئِلَ

رُفِعَ

خُلِقَ

وَعَدَ

أَحَدٌ

سَرَرٌ

رَسَلٌ

كُتِبَ

عُمِدٌ

مَسَدٌ

لَهَبٌ

وَلَدٌ

هَمَزَةٌ

ثَمَرَةٌ

شَجَرَةٌ

بَقَرَةٌ

Teacher tip: Most of these words come straight from the Quran. Once a word is read correctly, tell your child its meaning in one or two words. Meaning makes practice stick.

Lesson 7

Standing Vowels

Khari Harakaat · long vowels in small form

A standing fatha, standing kasra or reversed damma is read long, about two counts. Think of them as a short vowel that stretches.

تْ	تِ	تُ	بْ	بِ	بُ
مْ	مِ	مُ	لْ	لِ	لُ
هْ	هِ	هُ	نْ	نِ	نُ
كْ	كِ	كُ	ذْ	ذِ	ذُ
سْ	سِ	سُ	رْ	رِ	رُ
فْ	فِ	فُ	عْ	عِ	عُ

In real words

بِهِ	لَهُ	ذَلِكَ	هَذَا
مَلِكُهُ	كُتِبَ	رَسُولُهُ	إِلَهُ

Teacher tip: Count on fingers: one finger for a short vowel, two fingers for a standing one. The physical count stops rushing.

Alif after a fatha, yaa after a kasra, and waaw after a damma make the sound long, two counts each.

بَا baa بِي bee بُو boo

تُو	تِي	تَا	بُو	بِي	بَا
جُو	جِي	جَا	ثُو	ثِي	ثَا
خُو	خِي	خَا	حُو	حِي	حَا
ذُو	ذِي	ذَا	دُو	دِي	دَا
زُو	زِي	زَا	رُو	رِي	رَا
شُو	شِي	شَا	سُو	سِي	سَا
ضُو	ضِي	ضَا	صُو	صِي	صَا
ظُو	ظِي	ظَا	طُو	طِي	طَا
غُو	غِي	غَا	عُو	عِي	عَا
قُو	قِي	قَا	فُو	فِي	فَا
لُو	لِي	لَا	كُو	كِي	كَا
نُو	نِي	نَا	مُو	مِي	مَا
هُو	هِي	هَا	وُو	وِي	وَا
			يُو	يِي	يَا

Teacher tip: Two counts, not four. Over stretching is as much a mistake as cutting short. Use a steady clap so every long vowel is the same length.

When waaw or yaa has a sukoon and the letter before it has a fatha, the sound becomes soft and gliding: aw as in cow, ay as in day.

بَوَ bay بِي bay

تِي	ثَوَ	تِي	تَوَ	بِي	بَوَ
خِي	خَوَ	حِي	حَوَ	جِي	جَوَ
رِي	رَوَ	ذِي	ذَوَ	دِي	دَوَ
شِي	شَوَ	سِي	سَوَ	زِي	زَوَ
طِي	طَوَ	ضِي	ضَوَ	صِي	صَوَ
غِي	غَوَ	عِي	عَوَ	ظِي	ظَوَ
كِي	كَوَ	قِي	قَوَ	فِي	فَوَ
نِي	نَوَ	مِي	مَوَ	لِي	لَوَ
يِي	يَوَ	هِي	هَوَ	وِي	وَوَ

The maddah sign

A wavy line above a long vowel letter **آ** means stretch it further, four to five counts.

شَاءَ	آمَنُوا	سُوءَ	جَاءَ
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Teacher tip: Leen sounds are quick. Keep them short in normal reading and only stretch them when stopping on the word at the end of an ayah.

Watch for three lengths in these words: short vowels (one count), long vowels (two counts) and soft leen sounds.

يَقُولُ

نور

كَانَ

قَالَ

رَحِيمٌ

عَلِيمٌ

فِيهَا

قِيلَ

دِينٌ

رَسُولٌ

كِتَابٌ

غَفُورٌ

صَيْفٌ

قَوْمٌ

بَيْتٌ

خَوْفٌ

طِينٌ

بَابٌ

نَارٌ

سَوْفَ

Teacher tip: Ask your child to find every long vowel on the page before reading it. Spotting them first makes the reading itself much smoother.

A small circle above a letter means it has no vowel. Join it to the letter before it: ab, ib, ub. Letters in blue are the qalqalah letters. They bounce slightly when silent.

أَبْ ab إِبْ ib أُبْ ub bounce ق ط ب ج د

أَتْ	إَتْ	أَتْ	أُبْ	إِبْ	أَبْ
أَجْ	إَجْ	أَجْ	أُثْ	إِثْ	أَثْ
أَخْ	إِخْ	أَخْ	أُحْ	إِحْ	أَحْ
أَذْ	إِذْ	أَذْ	أُدْ	إِذْ	أَدْ
أَزْ	إِزْ	أَزْ	أُرْ	إِرْ	أَرْ
أَشْ	إِشْ	أَشْ	أُسْ	إِشْ	أُسْ
أَضْ	إِضْ	أَضْ	أُصْ	إِصْ	أُصْ
أَظْ	إِظْ	أَظْ	أُطْ	إِطْ	أُطْ
أَغْ	إِغْ	أَغْ	أُعْ	إِعْ	أُعْ
أَقْ	إِاقْ	أَقْ	أُفْ	إِفْ	أُفْ
أَلْ	إِلْ	أَلْ	أَكْ	إِكْ	أَكْ
أَنْ	إِنْ	أَنْ	أُمْ	إِمْ	أُمْ
أَهْ	إِهْ	أَهْ	أَوْ	إِوْ	أَوْ
			أَيْ	إِيْ	أَيْ

Teacher tip: The bounce on qalqalah letters is a small echo, not an extra vowel. Listen for the difference between أَبْ and أَبْ.

Read each word in one smooth piece. The silent letter should close the syllable, never open a new one.

عَنْ

مِنْ

لَمْ

قُلْ

كَمْ

بَلْ

هَلْ

قَدْ

أَكْبَرُ

مَغْفِرَةٌ

أَنْعَمْتُ

يَعْلَمُ

مَسْجِدٌ

يَوْمٌ

أَحْسَنُ

يَشْكُرُ

صَبِرُ

نَحْنُ

أَجْرُ

يَخْلُقُ

Teacher tip: Clap once per syllable. قُلْ is one clap, يَعْلَمُ is three. Children who clap syllables rarely add stray vowels.

The shaddah sign means the letter is said twice: once silent, joined to the letter before, and once with its vowel. أَبَّ is read ab-ba.

أَبَّ ab-ba أَبِّ ib-bi أُبُّ ub-bu

أَبَّ	أَبِّ	أُبُّ	أَبَّ	أَبِّ	أُبُّ
أَشَّ	أَشِّ	أُشُّ	أَشَّ	أَشِّ	أُشُّ
أَحَّ	أَحِّ	أُحُّ	أَحَّ	أَحِّ	أُحُّ
أَدَّ	أَدِّ	أُدُّ	أَدَّ	أَدِّ	أُدُّ
أَرَّ	أَرِّ	أُرُّ	أَرَّ	أَرِّ	أُرُّ
أَسَّ	أَسِّ	أُسُّ	أَسَّ	أَسِّ	أُسُّ
أَصَّ	أَصِّ	أُصُّ	أَصَّ	أَصِّ	أُصُّ
أَطَّ	أَطِّ	أُطُّ	أَطَّ	أَطِّ	أُطُّ
أَعَّ	أَعِّ	أُعُّ	أَعَّ	أَعِّ	أُعُّ
أَفَّ	أَفِّ	أُفُّ	أَفَّ	أَفِّ	أُفُّ
أَلَّ	أَلِّ	أُلُّ	أَلَّ	أَلِّ	أُلُّ
أَمَّ	أَمِّ	أُمُّ	أَمَّ	أَمِّ	أُمُّ
أَوْ	أَوْ	أَوْ	أَوْ	أَوْ	أَوْ
أَيَّ	أَيِّ	أُيُّ	أَيَّ	أَيِّ	أُيُّ

Teacher tip: Press on the doubled letter for a moment before releasing it. Noon and meem with shaddah also get a nasal hum of two counts.

Find the shaddah in each word first, then read. Every doubled letter should be clearly heard twice.

كُلُّ

ثُمَّ

إِنَّ

رَبِّ

رَبُّكَ

أُمَّةٌ

مُحَمَّدٌ

حَقُّ

يُسَبِّحُ

فَضْلٌ

عِلْمٌ

قَدْرٌ

جَنَّةٌ

شَرٌّ

مَرَّةٌ

مُعَلِّمٌ

Teacher tip: Common slip: reading مُحَمَّدٌ as muhamadun with one meem. Have your child hold the meem for a beat before moving on.

These words mix silent letters and doubled letters. Slow down at each sign.

قَدَّمْتُمْ

يَسْرِنَا

فَكْبَرِ

فَسَبِّحْ

تَبَّتْ

مُسْتَمِرٌّ

أَشَدُّ

عَلِمْتَنَا

زَيْنَا

كَذَّبَتْ

يَمْدَهُمْ

فَصَلِّ

Teacher tip: Read the word in pieces the first time, for example فَ سَبِّ يَحْ, then say it whole. Breaking words apart is how fluent readers were trained too.

Two shaddahs sit close together here, sometimes across two words. Give each one its full weight.

ثُمَّ إِنَّ

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ

الْمَزْمَلِ

ذَرِيَّةِ

حَقِّ مِنْ

الْمَدَثْرِ

مُحَمَّدُ رَسُولُ

كُلِّ مِنْ

تَوَابِ رَحِيمِ

أُمَّةِ وَسَطِ

Teacher tip: Where tanween meets a letter with shaddah in the next word (كُلُّ مَنْ), the n sound merges into it. Your teacher will cover this rule, called idghaam, in detail.

When a long vowel is followed by a letter with shaddah, the long vowel is stretched six counts. You already say one of these in every prayer: الصَّالِّينَ at the end of Al Fatiha.

دَابَّةٌ

الضَّالِّينَ

الطَّامَّةُ

الْحَاقَّةُ

جَانُّ

الصَّاحَّةُ

مُدَّهَا مَتْنِ

صَوَافٍ

Teacher tip: Six counts feels long at first. Practice with الصَّالِّينَ daily; once that one is right, the rest follow the same pattern.

Student name: _____ Started on: _____

#	Lesson	Started	Read with help	Read alone ✓
1	The Arabic Alphabet			
2	Letter Shapes			
3	Disjoined Letters			
4	Short Vowels			
5	Double Vowels			
6	Vowel and Tanween Practice			
7	Standing Vowels			
8	Long Vowel Letters and Soft Letters			
9	Long Vowel Practice			
10	The Sukoon			
11	Sukoon Practice			
12	The Shaddah			
13	Shaddah Practice			
14	Shaddah with Sukoon			
15	Shaddah after Shaddah			
16	Shaddah after a Long Vowel			

مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ

You finished the Qaida

The next step is reading the Quran itself, page by page, with Tajweed.

The best of you are those who learn the Quran and teach it. (Sahih al Bukhari 5027)