ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Vowel Teams: ai and ay

When two vowels go walking... Read, trace, find and fill in ai and ay words.



1. Say it

ai · ay

ai and ay say /ā/, as in rain and day

2. Read and trace

rain tail paint

day play tray

3. Color every word with ai or ay

wait	pal	tap
stay	gray	snail
wet	hat	man
say	sad	mail

4. Write ai or ay to finish each word

1. r **ai** n
2. pl **ay**
3. sn **ai** l
4. st **ay**
5. p **ai** nt
6. tr **ay**

Tip: ay comes at the end of a word. ai comes in the middle.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ai and ay words.

We play in the rain all day.

6. Draw a snail with a long tail

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Vowel Teams: ee and ea

Two vowels, one long e sound! Read, trace, find and fill in ee and ea words.



1. Say it

ee · ea

ee and ea say /ē/, as in tree and leaf

2. Read and trace

tree feet bee

leaf seal beach

3. Color every word with ee or ea

need	at	ten
eat	clean	green
net	clan	shed
team	grin	sheep

4. Write ee or ea to finish each word

1. tr **ee**
2. l **ea** f
3. s **ee** d
4. dr **ea** m
5. sh **ee** p
6. t **ea** ch

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ee and ea words.

I eat a peach under the green tree.

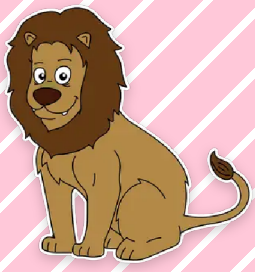
6. Draw a bee on a leaf

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Vowel Teams: oa and ow

Two letters, one long o sound! Read, trace, find and fill in oa and ow words.



1. Say it

oa · ow

oa and ow say /ō/, as in boat and snow

2. Read and trace

boat coat soap

snow grow bowl

3. Color every word with oa or ow

toad	hot	sob
show	blow	goat
top	box	rod
slow	cot	road

4. Write oa or ow to finish each word

1. b **oa** t
2. sn **ow**
3. g **oa** t
4. gr **ow**
5. r **oa** d
6. thr **ow**

Tip: ow can also say /ow/, as in cow. That one is on the ou and ow sheet.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the oa and ow words.

The goat sat in a boat in the snow.

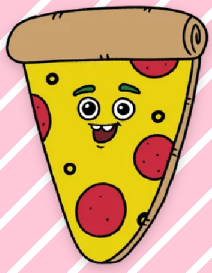
6. Draw a goat in a coat

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long Vowel Sort: a, e, o

Read each word. Listen for the long vowel. Write the word under long a, long e or long o.



Word bank

gray · toad · snow · sheep · coat · green · play · snail · beach · boat · seal · mail

long a	long e	long o
mail	green	boat
play	beach	snow
gray	seal	toad
snail	sheep	coat

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R: ar

The r is bossy: it changes the sound of the a! Read, trace, find and fill in ar words.



1. Say it

ar

ar says /ar/, as in car and star

2. Read and trace

car star jar

farm park shark

3. Color every word with ar

am	duck	**cart**
card	**dark**	**yard**
barn	**arm**	yak
ban	cat	cod

4. Write ar or or to finish each word

1. sh **ar** k
2. st **ar**
3. y **ar** n
4. j **ar**
5. g **ar** den
6. h **ar** p

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ar words.

A shark swam in the dark.

6. Draw a star over a farm

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R: or

The r is bossy: it changes the sound of the o! Read, trace, find and fill in or words.



1. Say it

or

or says /or/, as in corn and fork

2. Read and trace

corn fork horse

storm short north

3. Color every word with or

pouch	bone	fort
cord	born	torn
sport	porch	ton
spot	fox	cod

4. Write or or ar to finish each word

1. h **or** se
2. c **or** n
3. f **or** k
4. st **or** m
5. th **or** n
6. sp **or** t

5. Read the sentence. Trace the or words.

A horse ate corn in the storm.

6. Draw a horse in a storm

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R: er, ir, ur

Three spellings, one sound! Read, trace, find and fill in er, ir and ur words.



1. Say it

er · ir · ur

er, ir and ur all say /er/, as in her, bird and fur

2. Read and trace

her fern bird

girl fur surf

3. Color every word with er or ir or ur

first	hut	nose
hurt	clerk	shirt
fist	click	head
nurse	shot	herd

4. Write er, ir or ur to finish each word

1. b **ir** d
2. f **er** n
3. n **ur** se
4. g **ir** l
5. p **ur** se
6. h **er** d

Tip: Three spellings, one sound. Learn which one each word uses.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the er and ir and ur words.

The girl saw a bird and a turtle.

6. Draw a bird on a turtle

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R Sentences

Read each sentence. Circle the bossy R team that makes a real word. Write it on the line.



1 The c **ar** is fast. — **ar** or ir

2 I eat with a f **or** k. — **or** ar ir

3 The b **ir** d can fly. — **ir** ar or

4 A n **ur** se helps sick kids. — **ur** ar ir

5 The st **ar** is bright. — **ar** or ur

6 I can ride a h **or** se. — **or** ar ur

7 My sh **ir** t is red. — **ir** ur er

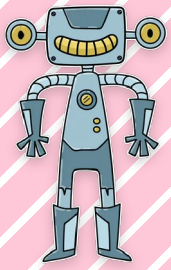
8 We planted seeds in the d **ir** t. — **ir** ur or

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: oi and oy

Read, trace, find and fill in oi and oy words.



1. Say it

oi · oy

oi and oy say /oy/, as in coin and boy

2. Read and trace

coin oil soil

boy toy joy

3. Color every word with oi or oy

join	enjoy	point
nose	pint	jog
end	so	boil
bowl	soy	noise

4. Write oi or oy to finish each word

1. c **oi** n
2. t **oy**
3. p **oi** nt
4. b **oy**
5. s **oi** l
6. enj **oy**

Tip: oy comes at the end of a word. oi comes in the middle.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the oi and oy words.

The boy found a coin in the soil.

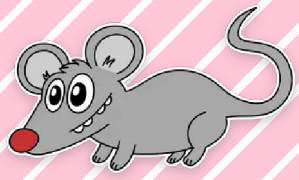
6. Draw a boy with a toy

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: ou and ow

Read, trace, find and fill in ou and ow words.



1. Say it

ou · ow

ou and ow say /ow/, as in mouse and cow

2. Read and trace

out cloud house

cow owl clown

3. Color every word with ou or ow

shout	town	mouth
bran	moth	shot
ton	den	loud
lid	down	brown

4. Write ou or ow to finish each word

1. h **ou** se
2. c **ow**
3. cl **ou** d
4. **ow** l
5. m **ou** th
6. cl **ow** n

Tip: Ouch! ow can also say /ō/, as in snow.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ou and ow words.

A brown cow ran out of the house.

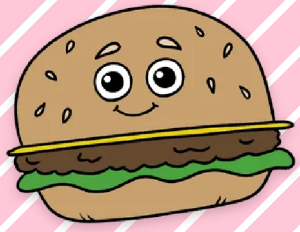
6. Draw an owl on a cloud

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Soft C and Soft G

Read each word. Is the c or g hard or soft? Write the word in the right column.



The rule

c and g are usually soft before e, i or y: c says /s/ and g says /j/.

Word bank

cake · gym · gem · cot · ice · goat · giant · face · city · bag · page · cat · rice · gum · cup · frog

c says /s/	c says /k/	g says /j/	g says /g/
city	cat	gem	goat
face	cup	giant	gum
ice	cake	gym	bag
rice	cot	page	frog

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Syllable Split

Clap each word. Write it in parts with a line between the syllables. Then circle how many syllables it has.



1	rabbit	rab | bit	1 **2** 3
2	sunset	sun | set	1 **2** 3
3	napkin	nap | kin	1 **2** 3
4	basket	bas | ket	1 **2** 3
5	tiger	ti | ger	1 **2** 3
6	robot	ro | bot	1 **2** 3
7	pumpkin	pump | kin	1 **2** 3
8	cupcake	cup | cake	1 **2** 3
9	dinosaur	di | no | saur	1 2 **3**
10	butterfly	but | ter | fly	1 2 **3**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Ending –ed: three sounds

Read each word out loud. Listen to the -ed. Does it say /t/, /d/ or /id/? Write it in that column.



The rule

After t or d, -ed says /id/. After sounds like p, k, s, sh and ch it says /t/. After the rest it says /d/.

Word bank

painted · landed · jumped · rained · kicked · played · needed · helped · yelled · wished · hugged · wanted

/t/ as in jumped	/d/ as in played	/id/ as in painted
jumped	played	painted
helped	rained	needed
kicked	yelled	landed
wished	hugged	wanted

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Adding –ing

Add -ing to each word. Check the three rules first: just add it, double the last letter, or drop the e.



The three rules

1. **Just add -ing**
   jump → jumping
2. **Short vowel and one last consonant? Double it.**
   run → running
3. **Ends in silent e? Drop the e.**
   ride → riding

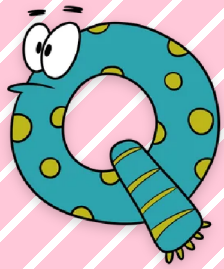
1	jump	+ ing	jumping		
2	swim	+ ing	swimming		
3	bake	+ ing	baking		
4	read	+ ing	reading		
5	hop	+ ing	hopping		
6	smile	+ ing	smiling		
7	play	+ ing	playing		
8	sit	+ ing	sitting		
9	make	+ ing	making		
10	rest	+ ing	resting		

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Silent Letters: kn, wr, mb

One letter is quiet! Read each sentence. Circle the letters that finish the word. Write them on the line.



1 I **kn** ock on the door. — **kn** wr mb

2 I can **wr** ite my name. — **wr** kn mb

3 My thu **mb** is on my hand. — **mb** kn wr

4 The **kn** ight has a sword. — **kn** wr mb

5 I hurt my **wr** ist. — **wr** kn mb

6 A la **mb** is a baby sheep. — **mb** wr kn

7 I fell and hurt my **kn** ee. — **kn** wr mb

8 Can you cli **mb** the tree? — **mb** kn wr

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long i: igh and ie

Three letters, one sound! Read, trace, find and fill in igh and ie words.



1. Say it

igh · ie

igh and ie say /ī/, as in night and pie

2. Read and trace

night light high

pie tie lie

3. Color every word with igh or ie

fit	sit	**right**
rat	**die**	trip
cried	**tried**	did
sight	**fight**	cat

4. Write igh or ie to finish each word

1. n **igh** t
2. p **ie**
3. l **igh** t
4. t **ie**
5. br **igh** t
6. cr **ie** d

Tip: The gh in igh is silent. You only hear the i.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the igh and ie words.

At night I tried to tie my shoe.

6. Draw a pie in the night sky

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long u: ue and ew

Read, trace, find and fill in ue and ew words.



1. Say it

ue · ew

ue and ew say /ū/ or /oo/, as in blue and new

2. Read and trace

blue glue clue

new few chew

3. Color every word with ue or ew

rescue	flip	grin
flew	stew	due
rest	step	tree
grew	dog	true

4. Write ue or ew to finish each word

1. bl **ue**
2. n **ew**
3. gl **ue**
4. ch **ew**
5. tr **ue**
6. st **ew**

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ue and ew words.

The blue bird flew to a new nest.

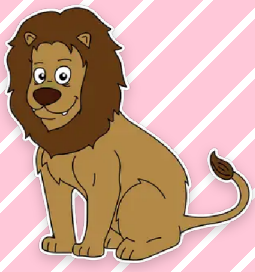
6. Draw a blue bird with glue

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: aw and au

Read, trace, find and fill in aw and au words.



1. Say it

aw · au

aw and au say /aw/, as in paw and sauce

2. Read and trace

paw saw draw

sauce haul fault

3. Color every word with aw or au

yawn	pass	lunch
pause	autumn	straw
yes	apple	clap
launch	strap	claw

4. Write aw or au to finish each word

1. p **aw**
2. s **au** ce
3. dr **aw**
4. h **au** l
5. str **aw**
6. p **au** se

Tip: aw usually comes at the end of a word. au comes in the middle.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the aw and au words.

I saw a lion lick its paw.

6. Draw a lion with a straw

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: air and are

Read, trace, find and fill in air and are words.



1. Say it

air · are

air and are say /air/, as in hair and care

2. Read and trace

hair chair pair

care share scare

3. Color every word with air or are

rat	bar	star
fair	**rare**	far
bare	squid	**repair**
red	**square**	**stair**

4. Write air or are to finish each word

1. unf **air**
2. c **are**
3. ch **air**
4. sh **are**
5. rep **air**
6. sc **are**

5. Read the sentence. Trace the air and are words.

A bear with long hair sat in a chair.

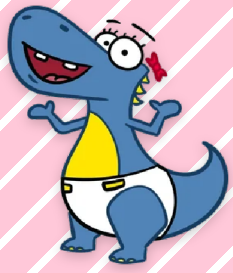
6. Draw a bear in a chair

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Endings: tch and dge

Read, trace, find and fill in the tch and dge words.



1. Say it

tch · dge

tch says /ch/ and dge says /j/, after a short vowel

2. Read and trace

catch match witch

badge bridge judge

3. Color every word with tch or dge

hutch	fudge	patch
led	path	hut
fun	hen	itch
it	hedge	ledge

4. Write tch or dge to finish each word

1. ca**tch**
2. ju**dge**
3. wi**tch**
4. bri**dge**
5. ma**tch**
6. fu**dge**

Tip: Short vowel right before the sound? Use tch and dge (catch, badge). Long vowel or a consonant before it? Use ch and ge (beach, cage).

5. Read the sentence. Trace the tch and dge words.

The witch sat on the edge of the bridge.

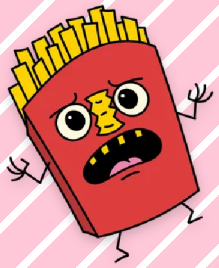
6. Draw a witch on a bridge

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Two Sounds of oo

Read each word out loud. Does oo sound like book or like moon? Write it in that column.



The rule

oo has two sounds: a short one, as in book, and a long one, as in moon.

Word bank

book · good · room · wood · boot · food · spoon · moon · look · zoo · foot · cook

short oo, as in book	long oo, as in moon
book	moon
look	food
cook	zoo
foot	boot
wood	room
good	spoon

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Y as a Vowel

Read each word. Does the y sound like fly or like baby? Write it in that column.



The rule

At the end of a short word, y says /ī/ (fly). At the end of a longer word, y says /ē/ (baby).

Word bank

candy · my · happy · sky · puppy · cry · fly · bunny · why · funny · baby · try

y says /ī/, as in fly	y says /ē/, as in baby
fly	baby
sky	happy
cry	puppy
my	funny
why	candy
try	bunny

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Vowel Team Sentences

Read each sentence. Circle the vowel team that makes a real word. Write it on the line.



1 The r **ai** n fell all day. — (**ai**) ee oa

2 I like to pl **ay** tag. — (**ay**) ee oa

3 A b **ee** buzzed by me. — (**ee**) ai ow

4 We swam at the b **ea** ch. — (**ea**) ai oa

5 The b **oa** t is on the lake. — (**oa**) ee ay

6 It will sn **ow** tonight. — (**ow**) ai ea

7 My f **ee** t are cold. — (**ee**) oa ay

8 I ate a p **ea** ch. — (**ea**) ow ai

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long Vowel Word Search

Find all 10 words. They go across, down or diagonally down. Cross each one off the list!



p	n	g	r	t	m	w	e	b	r
l	l	e	a	f	m	c	y	o	r
a	t	r	e	e	n	o	h	a	b
y	r	d	t	c	k	r	n	t	t
e	r	l	s	m	e	i	a	g	r
e	b	r	a	n	s	b	t	i	i
k	l	i	r	i	c	n	i	e	n
e	u	g	e	g	e	u	o	u	r
f	e	w	h	h	a	a	b	w	i
p	i	k	s	t	n	n	e	e	i

- ☐ rain
- ☐ tree
- ☐ boat
- ☐ kite
- ☐ cube
- ☐ snow
- ☐ leaf
- ☐ play
- ☐ night
- ☐ blue

Pick two words that spell the same long vowel sound in different ways. Write them:

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Plurals: add -s or -es

More than one! Add -s or -es to each word. Check the two rules first.



The rules

1 Most words: just add -s
cat → cats

2 Ends in s, x, ch or sh? Add -es.
box → boxes

1 cat + s **cats**

2 box + es **boxes**

3 dog + s **dogs**

4 bus + es **buses**

5 hat + s **hats**

6 dish + es **dishes**

7 bench + es **benches**

8 frog + s **frogs**

9 fox + es **foxes**

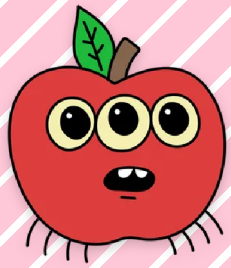
10 book + s **books**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Compound Words

Put the two small words together. Write the big word you made!



The rule

Two small words make one big word

cup + cake → cupcake

1 sun + set **sunset**

2 rain + bow **rainbow**

3 cup + cake **cupcake**

4 sea + horse **seahorse**

5 star + fish **starfish**

6 pan + cake **pancake**

7 bed + room **bedroom**

8 foot + ball **football**

9 snow + man **snowman**

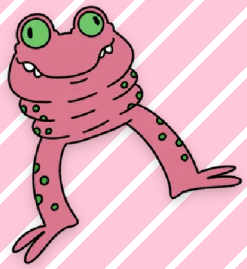
10 butter + fly **butterfly**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Prefixes: un- and re-

A prefix goes at the front of a word and changes what it means. Join each prefix to its word and write the new word.



The rules

1 un- means not or the opposite
un + happy → unhappy

2 re- means again
re + do → redo

1 un + happy **unhappy**

2 re + do **redo**

3 un + lock **unlock**

4 re + read **reread**

5 un + tie **untie**

6 re + fill **refill**

7 un + fair **unfair**

8 re + play **replay**

9 un + zip **unzip**

10 re + build **rebuild**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Suffixes: -er and -est

Add -er or -est to each word. Watch out: some words double their last letter first!



The rules

1 -er compares two things
tall + er → taller

2 -est is the most of all
tall + est → tallest

3 Short vowel and one last consonant? Double it.
big → bigger

1 tall + er **taller**

2 tall + est **tallest**

3 fast + er **faster**

4 fast + est **fastest**

5 big + er **bigger**

6 big + est **biggest**

7 small + er **smaller**

8 small + est **smallest**

9 hot + er **hotter**

10 hot + est **hottest**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Open and Closed Syllables

Read each word. Does it end in a vowel or a consonant? Write it in the right column.



The rule

A closed syllable ends in a consonant and the vowel is short (cat, hop). An open syllable ends in a vowel and the vowel is long (go, me).

Word bank

got · him · go · me · she · shed · wet · hi · men · no · not · we

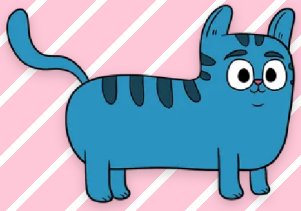
open: ends in a vowel	closed: ends in a consonant
go	got
me	men
hi	him
no	not
we	wet
she	shed

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: ph and gh say /f/

Two more ways to spell /f/! Read each sentence. Circle the letters that finish the word. Write them on the line.



1 I talk on the **ph** one. — (**ph**) gh f

2 That joke made me lau**gh**. — (**gh**) ph f

3 An ele**ph**ant is big. — (**ph**) gh f

4 I have a bad cou**gh**. — (**gh**) ph f

5 A dol**ph**in swims fast. — (**ph**) gh f

6 The rock is rou**gh**. — (**gh**) ph f

7 I took a **ph**oto of my cat. — (**ph**) gh f

8 This meat is tou**gh**. — (**gh**) ph f

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: ear and eer

Two spellings, one sound! Read, trace, find and fill in the ear and eer words.



1. Say it

ear · eer

ear and eer say /eer/, as in ear and deer

2. Read and trace

ear hear near

deer cheer steer

3. Color every word with ear or eer

clap	year	fear
sheer	gear	yes
clear	sheet	fir
peer	pet	get

4. Write ear or eer to finish each word

1. h**ear**
2. ch**eer**
3. n**ear**
4. st**eer**
5. sp**ear**
6. reind**eer**

Tip: ear can also say /air/, as in bear and pear.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ear and eer words.

Near the lake, the deer can hear us cheer.

6. Draw a deer with big ears

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: ore and oar

Read, trace, find and fill in the ore and oar words.



1. Say it

ore · oar

ore and oar say /or/, as in more and roar

2. Read and trace

more store shore

roar oar board

3. Color every word with ore or oar

snow	wore	core
chore	soar	wove
snore	road	cone
boar	boat	soap

4. Write ore or oar to finish each word

1. m**ore**
2. r**oar**
3. st**ore**
4. upr**oar**
5. sh**ore**
6. sn**ore**

Tip: or, ore and oar all say /or/. The or sheet has the short spelling.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ore and oar words.

I heard a roar from the shore.

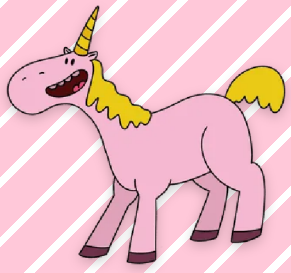
6. Draw a boat with an oar

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long a: eigh and ey

Two tricky spellings of long a! Read, trace, find and fill in the eigh and ey words.



1. Say it

eigh · ey

eigh and ey can say /ā/, as in eight and they

2. Read and trace

eight weigh sleigh

they grey obey

3. Color every word with eigh or ey

fly	neigh	weight
convey	prey	nail
eighty	play	wait
hey	hay	pray

4. Write eigh or ey to finish each word

1. eigh t
2. th ey
3. w eigh
4. gr ey
5. sl eigh
6. ob ey

Tip: The gh in eigh is silent. ey can also say /ē/, as in key.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the eigh and ey words.

They rode in a sleigh with eight bells.

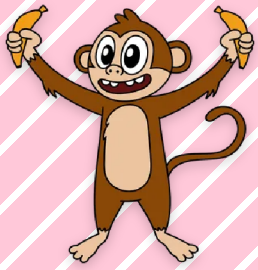
6. Draw eight bells on a sleigh

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long e: ey and ie

Two more ways to spell long e! Read, trace, find and fill in the ey and ie words.



1. Say it

ey · ie

ey and ie can say /ē/, as in key and field

2. Read and trace

key monkey honey

field chief piece

3. Color every word with ey or ie

shield	brief	donkey
bring	turkey	dock
thief	shell	turn
mom	then	money

4. Write ey or ie to finish each word

1. k **ey**
2. f **ie** ld
3. hon **ey**
4. p **ie** ce
5. monk **ey**
6. th **ie** f

Tip: ie can also say /ī/, as in pie. That one is on the igh and ie sheet.

5. Read the sentence. Trace the ey and ie words.

The monkey found a key in the field.

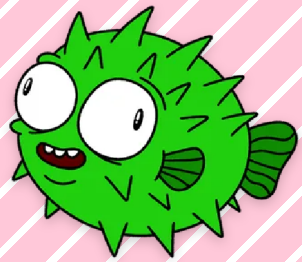
6. Draw a monkey with a key

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Blends: shr and thr

A digraph plus r! Read each sentence. Circle the letters that make a real word. Write them on the line.



1 The **shr** imp swims in the sea. **(shr)** thr str

2 I have **thr** ee pets. **(thr)** shr str

3 Can you **thr** ow the ball? **(thr)** shr gr

4 Hot water made my shirt **shr** ink. **(shr)** thr dr

5 The king sat on his **thr** one. **(thr)** shr st

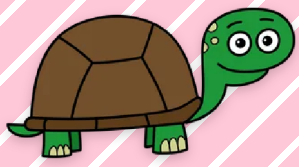
6 I **shr** ug when I do not know. **(shr)** thr sl

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R Sentences 2

Read each sentence. Circle the bossy R team that makes a real word. Write it on the line.



1 I put on my sc **ar** f. — **ar** or ir

2 The st **or** m was loud. — **or** ar ur

3 A t **ur** tle is slow. — **ur** ar or

4 My sist **er** is ten. — **er** ar or

5 Please t **ur** n the page. — **ur** ar or

6 Her sk **ir** t is pink. — **ir** ar or

7 Dad will c **ar** ve the turkey. — **ar** ur or

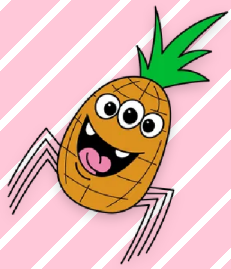
8 It is my th **ir** d try. — **ir** ar or

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long a Spellings: a_e, ai, ay

Read each word. How is the long a spelled? Write it in the right column.



The rule

Long a can be spelled a_e (cake), ai (rain) or ay (day). ay usually comes at the end of a word.

Word bank

flame · sway · braid · cave · chain · nail · hay · grape · spray · gate · train · clay

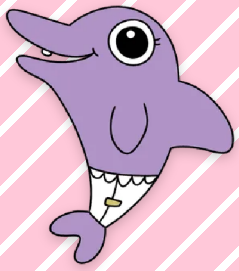
a_e	ai	ay
gate	train	hay
cave	nail	clay
flame	chain	spray
grape	braid	sway

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long e Spellings: ee, ea, y

Read each word. How is the long e spelled? Write it in the right column.



The rule

Long e can be spelled ee (tree), ea (leaf) or y at the end of a longer word (pony).

Word bank

lady · jelly · queen · story · cream · seat · wheat · cheek · bean · pony · street · sleep

ee	ea	y
sleep	bean	pony
cheek	cream	lady
street	seat	story
queen	wheat	jelly

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long i Spellings: i_e, igh, y

Read each word. How is the long i spelled? Write it in the right column.



The rule

Long i can be spelled i_e (bike), igh (night) or y at the end of a short word (fly).

Word bank

nine · bike · dry · spy · flight · slide · fright · smile · shy · thigh · sigh · fry

i_e	igh	y
bike	flight	dry
nine	fright	shy
slide	sigh	spy
smile	thigh	fry

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long o Spellings: o_e, oa, ow

Read each word. How is the long o spelled? Write it in the right column.



The rule

Long o can be spelled o_e (bone), oa (boat) or ow (snow). ow usually comes at the end of a word.

Word bank

mow · bone · home · loaf · nose · elbow · crow · throw · coach · float · toast · stone

o_e	oa	ow
home	toast	crow
bone	float	mow
stone	loaf	throw
nose	coach	elbow

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long u Spellings: u_e, ue, ew

Read each word. How is the long u spelled? Write it in the right column.



The rule

Long u can be spelled u_e (cube), ue (blue) or ew (new). ue and ew usually come at the end of a word.

Word bank

cue · dune · value · crew · flute · screw · argue · drew · mule · hue · threw · tune

u_e	ue	ew
mule	cue	crew
flute	hue	drew
tune	argue	threw
dune	value	screw

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R Sort: ar, or, er/ir/ur

Read each word. Which bossy R sound does it have? Write it in the right column.



Word bank

march · horn · stork · scarf · perch · twirl · spark · thorn · snort · burn · smart · church

ar	or	er, ir, ur
scarf	thorn	perch
smart	stork	twirl
march	snort	church
spark	horn	burn

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Sound Sort: /oy/ or /ow/?

Read each word out loud. Does it say /oy/ like boy or /ow/ like cow? Write it in that column.



The rule

oi and oy say /oy/, as in boy. ou and ow can say /ow/, as in cow.

Word bank

crowd · growl · frown · spoil · couch · pouch · sprout · choice · moist · ahoy · voice · oyster

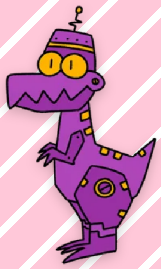
/oy/ as in boy	/ow/ as in cow
moist	crowd
spoil	frown
choice	pouch
oyster	sprout
voice	growl
ahoy	couch

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Bossy R Word Search

Find all 10 words. They go across, down or diagonally down. Cross each one off the list!



d	s	n	s	b	s	g	e	d	e
h	o	r	n	m	h	i	a	e	w
f	n	b	m	o	a	r	d	f	n
s	y	s	u	h	r	l	t	e	s
s	h	c	a	r	k	r	i	r	a
c	i	i	a	s	n	k	k	n	d
a	h	r	r	r	t	u	d	h	t
r	m	e	t	t	d	o	r	c	m
f	m	t	p	l	c	n	r	s	s
r	g	o	s	a	c	n	y	m	e

- ☐ shark
- ☐ storm
- ☐ shirt
- ☐ nurse
- ☐ fern
- ☐ horn
- ☐ scarf
- ☐ burn
- ☐ girl
- ☐ card

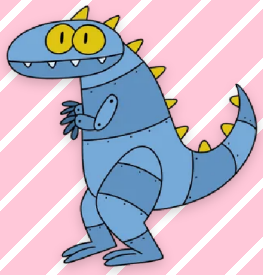
Pick two words with different bossy R spellings. Write them:

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: oi, oy, ou and ow Word Search

Find all 10 words. They go across, down or diagonally down. Cross each one off the list!



r	p	n	c	r	o	w	n	n	k
m	o	p	t	o	a	k	p	y	m
p	e	l	w	n	f	p	m	b	c
g	j	t	o	y	m	l	o	o	l
s	n	o	b	s	o	w	l	i	o
s	c	d	y	t	u	r	d	l	u
w	a	u	s	r	t	r	o	r	d
r	y	u	d	a	h	c	o	i	n
i	n	n	c	w	g	t	t	e	f
k	l	u	p	e	g	f	h	n	i

- ☐ coin
- ☐ toy
- ☐ cloud
- ☐ crown
- ☐ boil
- ☐ mouth
- ☐ joy
- ☐ sauce
- ☐ straw
- ☐ owl

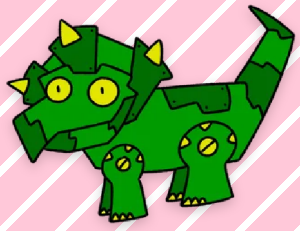
Pick a word with oi or oy and a word with ou or ow. Write them:

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Syllable Split 2

Clap each word. Write it in parts with a line between the syllables.
Then circle how many syllables it has.



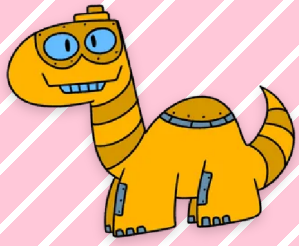
1	muffin	muf | fin	1 **2** 3
2	kitten	kit | ten	1 **2** 3
3	picnic	pic | nic	1 **2** 3
4	magnet	mag | net	1 **2** 3
5	helmet	hel | met	1 **2** 3
6	insect	in | sect	1 **2** 3
7	tadpole	tad | pole	1 **2** 3
8	banana	ba | na | na	1 2 **3**
9	octopus	oc | to | pus	1 2 **3**
10	fantastic	fan | tas | tic	1 2 **3**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Syllable Split: Open Syllables

Clap each word. Write it in parts. When a part ends in a vowel, the vowel says its name! Circle how many syllables.



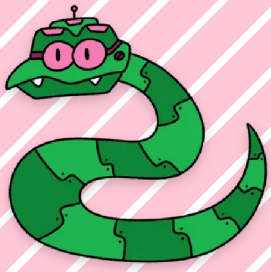
1	music	mu | sic	1 **2** 3
2	paper	pa | per	1 **2** 3
3	baby	ba | by	1 **2** 3
4	tulip	tu | lip	1 **2** 3
5	spider	spi | der	1 **2** 3
6	zero	ze | ro	1 **2** 3
7	pilot	pi | lot	1 **2** 3
8	computer	com | pu | ter	1 2 **3**
9	potato	po | ta | to	1 2 **3**
10	tornado	tor | na | do	1 2 **3**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Adding –ed

Add -ed to each word to tell about the past. Check the three rules first!



The rules

1 Just add -ed
jump → jumped

2 Short vowel and one last consonant? Double it.
hop → hopped

3 Ends in e? Just add -d.
bake → baked

1 walk + ed **walked**

2 hop + ed **hopped**

3 bake + ed **baked**

4 clap + ed **clapped**

5 smile + ed **smiled**

6 pick + ed **picked**

7 stop + ed **stopped**

8 wave + ed **waved**

9 look + ed **looked**

10 skip + ed **skipped**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Change y to i

Add the ending to each word. Look at the letter before the y first!



The rules

1 Consonant before the y? Change y to i, then add -es or -ed.
baby → babies

2 Vowel before the y? Keep the y and add -s.
day → days

1 baby + es **babies**

2 puppy + es **puppies**

3 cry + ed **cried**

4 try + ed **tried**

5 day + s **days**

6 toy + s **toys**

7 fly + es **flies**

8 pony + es **ponies**

9 key + s **keys**

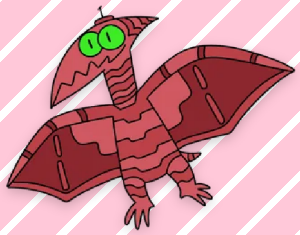
10 carry + ed **carried**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Contractions

Squeeze the two words into one. Write the contraction with an apostrophe.



The rule

Two words squeeze into one. An apostrophe takes the place of the missing letters.

do + not → don’t

1 do + not **don’t**

2 can + not **can’t**

3 I + am **I’m**

4 it + is **it’s**

5 we + are **we’re**

6 she + will **she’ll**

7 they + are **they’re**

8 is + not **isn’t**

9 you + are **you’re**

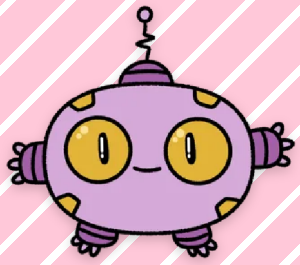
10 let + us **let’s**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Prefixes: dis- and pre-

A prefix goes at the front of a word and changes what it means. Join each prefix to its word and write the new word.



The rules

1 dis- means not or the opposite
dis + like → dislike

2 pre- means before
pre + heat → preheat

1 dis + like **dislike**

2 pre + heat **preheat**

3 dis + obey **disobey**

4 pre + view **preview**

5 dis + appear **disappear**

6 pre + school **preschool**

7 dis + agree **disagree**

8 pre + pay **prepay**

9 dis + honest **dishonest**

10 pre + set **preset**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Suffixes: -ful and -less

A suffix goes at the end of a word and changes what it means. Join each word and suffix and write the new word.



The rules

1 -ful means full of
help + ful → helpful

2 -less means without
help + less → helpless

1 help + ful **helpful**

2 help + less **helpless**

3 care + ful **careful**

4 care + less **careless**

5 hope + ful **hopeful**

6 hope + less **hopeless**

7 fear + less **fearless**

8 color + ful **colorful**

9 thank + ful **thankful**

10 use + less **useless**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Compound Words 2

Put the two small words together. Write the big word you made!



The rule

Two small words make one big word

rain + coat → raincoat

1 rain + coat **raincoat**

2 snow + ball **snowball**

3 sun + flower **sunflower**

4 tooth + brush **toothbrush**

5 pop + corn **popcorn**

6 mail + box **mailbox**

7 gold + fish **goldfish**

8 back + pack **backpack**

9 bath + tub **bathtub**

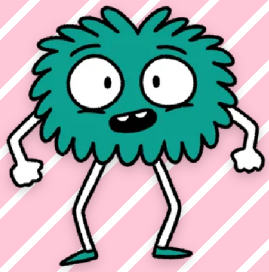
10 lady + bug **ladybug**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Silent Letters 2: gn, gh, lk, lf

One letter is quiet! Read each sentence. Circle the letters that finish the word. Write them on the line.



1 A **gn** at is a tiny bug. — **gn** kn wr

2 Stop at the red si **gn** . — **gn** ng mb

3 I like to wa **lk** my dog. — **lk** ck sk

4 A ca **lf** is a baby cow. — **lf** ff ft

5 The **gh** ost said boo! — **gh** h wh

6 I ate ha **lf** of the pie. — **lf** ff ft

7 Write on the board with cha **lk** . — **lk** ck mp

8 A **gn** ome has a red hat. — **gn** kn wr

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Adding –ing 2

Add -ing to each word. Check the three rules first: just add it, double the last letter, or drop the e.



The three rules

1 Just add -ing
sing → singing

2 Short vowel and one last consonant? Double it.
dig → digging

3 Ends in silent e? Drop the e.
hike → hiking

1 eat + ing = eating

2 clap + ing = clapping

3 dance + ing = dancing

4 fish + ing = fishing

5 shop + ing = shopping

6 wave + ing = waving

7 skip + ing = skipping

8 bike + ing = biking

9 help + ing = helping

10 grin + ing = grinning

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Long Vowel Word Search 2

Find all 10 words. They go across, down or diagonally down. Cross each one off the list!



s	w	t	i	r	s	s	r	e	g
c	h	a	i	n	l	w	u	r	h
f	h	y	e	f	e	h	k	o	s
l	s	t	r	l	i	e	i	a	f
i	s	u	o	u	g	a	s	g	i
g	t	e	s	t	h	t	l	k	e
h	e	a	w	e	h	f	e	f	l
t	w	n	d	p	n	p	e	g	d
k	t	o	a	s	t	c	p	c	n
t	k	h	o	n	e	y	f	o	l

- ☐ chain
- ☐ wheat
- ☐ toast
- ☐ flight
- ☐ sleigh
- ☐ flute
- ☐ stew
- ☐ honey
- ☐ field
- ☐ sleep

Pick two words that spell long e in different ways. Write them:

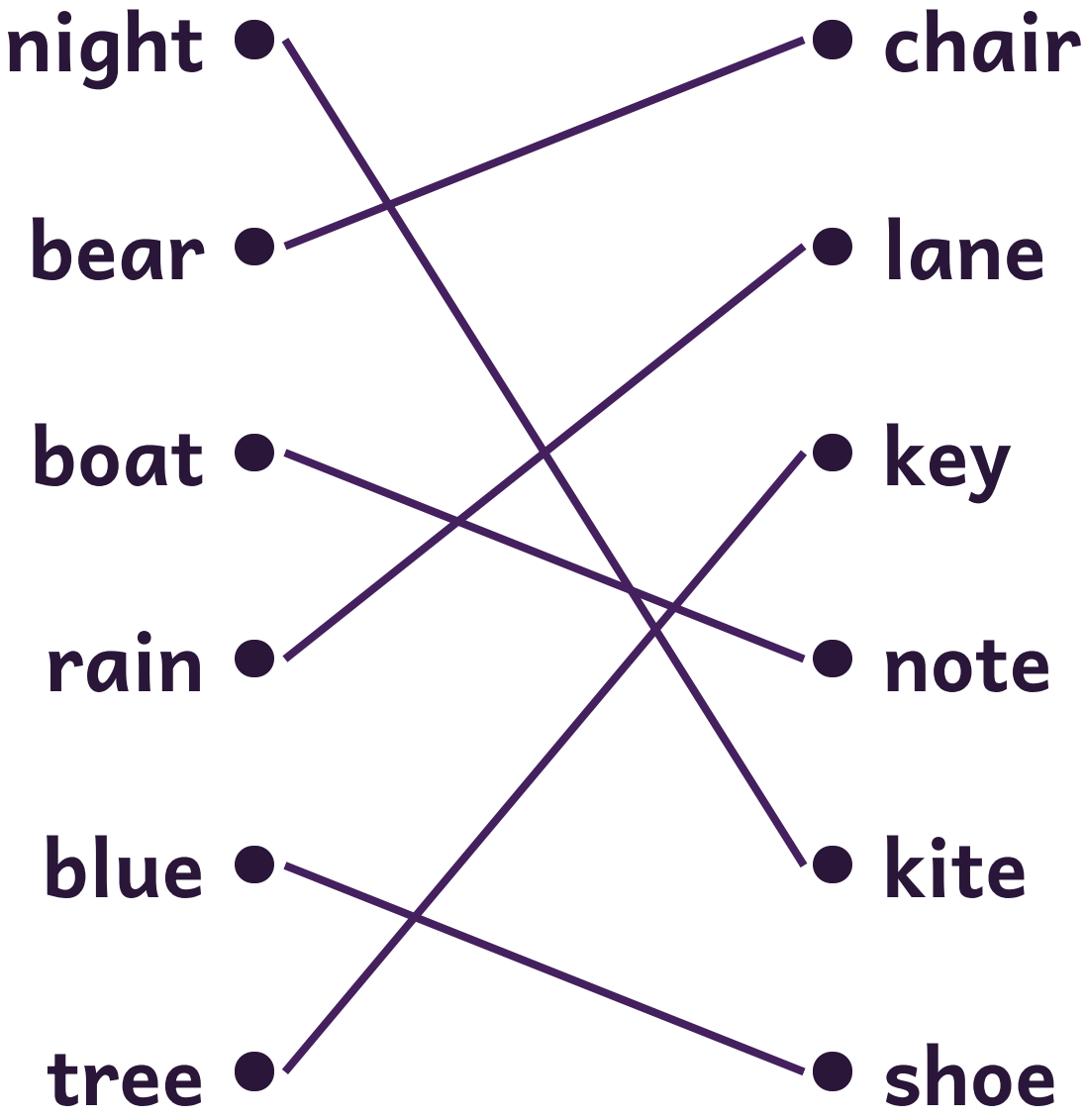
Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Rhyme Time 5: Different Spellings

These rhymes are spelled in different ways! Draw a line from each word to the word that rhymes with it.





Your turn: write a word that rhymes with night

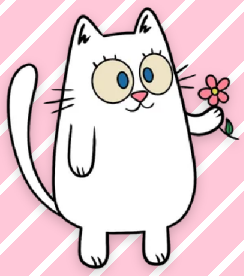
light, bite, white...

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Word Families: –ight, –ain, –eat

Put a letter from the letter bank in front of each word family. Write every real word you can make!



Letter bank

b f g h l m n p r s t

-ight

f ight
l ight
m ight
n ight
r ight

Also: sight, tight

-ain

g ain
m ain
p ain
r ain
 ain

-eat

b eat
h eat
m eat
n eat
s eat

Pick one of your words. Write it and draw it!

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Word Families: –ine, –ide, –ike

Put a letter from the letter bank in front of each word family. The magic e makes the i say its name!



Letter bank

b d f h l m n p r s t v w

-ine

d ine

f ine

l ine

m ine

n ine

Also: pine, vine

-ide

h ide

r ide

s ide

t ide

w ide

-ike

b ike

h ike

l ike

p ike

ike

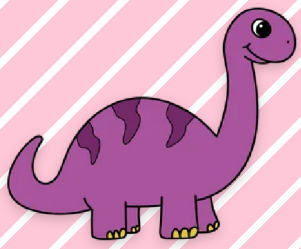
Pick one of your words. Write it and draw it!

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Vowel Team Sentences 2

Read each sentence. Circle the vowel team that makes a real word. Write it on the line.



1 We saw the stars at n **igh** t. — (igh) ie ew

2 I need gl **ue** for my art. — (ue) ew igh

3 We ate st **ew** for dinner. — (ew) ue ie

4 Mom baked a cherry p **ie** . — (ie) ue ew

5 The bird fl **ew** away. — (ew) ue igh

6 Please turn on the l **igh** t. — (igh) ie ue

7 Can you find a cl **ue** ? — (ue) ew ie

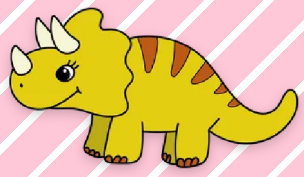
8 I tr **ie** d my best. — (ie) ue igh

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Sentences: oi, oy, ou, ow

Read each sentence. Circle the letters that make a real word. Write them on the line.



1 The b **oy** has a ball. — **oy** oi ow

2 I put a c **oi** n in my bank. — **oi** oy ou

3 The water will b **oi** l. — **oi** oy ow

4 A c **ow** says moo. — **ow** ou oy

5 The m **ou** se ate the cheese. — **ou** ow oi

6 I sh **ou** t when I win. — **ou** ow oi

7 The king has a cr **ow** n. — **ow** ou oi

8 Please make less n **oi** se. — **oi** ou oy

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · 2ND GRADE · FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Real or Silly Words? 2

Sound out each word. Is it a real word or a silly word? Write it in the right column.



The rule

A silly word follows the sound rules but has no meaning. Sound it out, then decide: is it a real word?

Word bank

boat · chab · chain · storm · night · voin · sheep · plurt · glark · foat · sheem · shark

real word	silly word
chain	chab
sheep	sheem
boat	foat
night	glark
shark	voin
storm	plurt

Art © Kevin Coulston