

# P H O N I C S

Every letter in the alphabet has both a name and a sound. The letters are divided into two groups, consonants and vowels. The vowels are the letters A, E, I, O, and U. All the rest are consonants. Consonants usually have one sound, but vowels have two sounds, a short and a long sound. Some combinations of letters blend to make a new sound. If we know the sounds each letter makes, we can often “sound out” new words when we are reading and we can spell many words we hear, even if we have never seen them spelled on paper.

## C O N S O N A N T S

B_____	D_____	F_____	H_____
bed	dog	fun	home
boat	dig	fog	hill
bean	dad	four	happy
ball	date	fox	hat
J_____	K_____	L_____	M_____
joy	kite	light	moon
jam	kitten	low	mom
jump	keep	love	mat
jeep	Ken	lap	made
N_____	P_____	Q_____	R_____
noon	pop	quick	run
nap	puppy	quack	rabbit
neat	pat	quiet	row
near	pan	quill	rat
S_____	T_____	V_____	W_____
star	Tom	very	wagon
sew	tar	vice	worry
snake	tin	victory	win
sorry	take	vase	white
X_____	Y_____	Z_____	
Xavier	you	zebra	
Xerox	yellow	zoo	
x-ray	young	zipper	
xylophone	year	zero	

# ACTIVITY SHEET FOR CONSONANTS

Solve the riddle by writing in a word that begins with the correct letter.

**B**

Something you use to ride on water \_\_\_\_\_

What you put soup or cereal in \_\_\_\_\_

A long, yellow tropical fruit \_\_\_\_\_

**D**

A common pet \_\_\_\_\_

Another name for father \_\_\_\_\_

Opposite of night \_\_\_\_\_

**F**

Opposite of close by \_\_\_\_\_

The number after three \_\_\_\_\_

Another name for mist \_\_\_\_\_

**H**

Opposite of cold \_\_\_\_\_

Your house \_\_\_\_\_

A very small mountain \_\_\_\_\_

**J**

Peanut butter and \_\_\_\_\_

Practical pants are blue \_\_\_\_\_

A summer month \_\_\_\_\_

**K**

A baby cat \_\_\_\_\_

A boy's name \_\_\_\_\_

A toy for windy days \_\_\_\_\_

**L**

Opposite of hate \_\_\_\_\_

Opposite of dark \_\_\_\_\_

Pale purple \_\_\_\_\_

## M

Another name for mother \_\_\_\_\_

The first day of the work week \_\_\_\_\_

A popular women's name \_\_\_\_\_

## N

Opposite of far \_\_\_\_\_

Opposite of messy \_\_\_\_\_

What children take in the afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

## P

A sugary beverage \_\_\_\_\_

A young dog \_\_\_\_\_

What you cook in \_\_\_\_\_

## Q

What ducks say \_\_\_\_\_

Not noisy \_\_\_\_\_

Another word for fast \_\_\_\_\_

## R

A large mouse-like rodent \_\_\_\_\_

Walk, don't \_\_\_\_\_

A color \_\_\_\_\_

## S

Opposite of fast \_\_\_\_\_

What you eat soup with \_\_\_\_\_

A winter sport \_\_\_\_\_

## T

A beverage \_\_\_\_\_

A Japanese car \_\_\_\_\_

A boy's name \_\_\_\_\_

**V**

Something to put flowers in \_\_\_\_\_

A spring flower \_\_\_\_\_

A bad habit \_\_\_\_\_

**W**

Opposite of black \_\_\_\_\_

Opposite of lose \_\_\_\_\_

A season \_\_\_\_\_

**Y**

A color \_\_\_\_\_

Not old \_\_\_\_\_

A pronoun \_\_\_\_\_

**Z**

An exotic animal \_\_\_\_\_

Part of a mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

A place for wild animals \_\_\_\_\_

## C O N S O N A N T S " C " A N D " G "

The letter "C" has no sound of its own. It has the sound of "s" or "k", depending upon the letter which follows it. The letter "C" is usually followed by a vowel or "y". Which of the following groups have the "K" sound, and which have the "S" sound?

cat		cent		circle	
cart	_____	cell	_____	cigar	_____
can		center		city	
cold		cup		cyst	
cot	_____	cuff	_____	cycle	_____
cow		cut		cypress	
cry					
clot	_____				
close					

Write four more "C" words with as "S" sound and four with a "K" sound.

The letter "G" has two different sounds, a "hard" sound and the "soft" sound of "J."

gab	gentleman
gall	germ
gap	general
glow	giant
go	gin
goal	ginger
grab	gypsy
great	gymnasium

Usually, "G" has a soft sound before "E", "T", and "Y", and a hard sound before any other letter. Write four more words with a soft "G" and four with a hard "G" sound.

## C O N S O N A N T C O M B I N A T I O N S

Sometimes two consonants next to each other in a word have one sound. The “th” in mother and the “ch” in machine are examples of this. These combinations are called diagraphs: *ch, ph, gh, sh, th.*

Find the diagraphs in the following words and write it in the space provided. Sound out the diagraphs as you write them.

shake _____	elephant _____	horseshoe _____	ethnic _____
this _____	beach _____	father _____	phone _____
chose _____	laugh _____	peach _____	bunch _____

Write four more words for each of the diagraphs.

## V O W E L S

The vowels are: A E I O U. Sometimes Y functions as a vowel. Vowels have two sounds, a long sound (ˉ) placed above the vowel and a short (˘).

Long vowels sound just like their names. In the following list, the first sound of the word will be the same as the name of the first letter.

ā	ē	ī	ō	ū
ape	east	idea	over	use
aim	eat	Ida	old	unit
able	easy	ice	open	uniform
apron	each	island	only	unite

Write four more words for each long vowel sound.

## V O W E L S

Short vowel sounds do not sound like the letter’s name.

ă	Sounds like the “a” in apple	ĕ	sounds like the “e” in end	ĭ	sounds like the “i” in Indian
ax		exit		ill	
ant		else		is	
absent		every		instead	
actor		enter		important	

ō sounds like the “o”  
in on

ox

odd

object

operate

ū sounds like the “u”  
in up

under

uncle

until

umbrella

Write four more words for each short vowel sound.

## R U L E S F O R V O W E L S

Rule # 1: When a word ends in “e” is silent and the vowel nearest to it has a long vowel sound.

Group 1

măd

căn

wîn

cût

Group 2

māde

cāne

wīne

cūte

The only difference between the words in group one and the words in group two is the silent “e” on the end of each word. The vowel sound changes from a short vowel in group one to a long vowel in group two. Say these words aloud. Can you hear the vowel sound change? Write four more words which follow this rule.

Rule # 2: When two vowels appear together, the first one has a long vowel sound and the second one is silent. The following sentence is a reminder: “When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking.”

ai

= ā

ay

păd

pāid

clăw

clāy

clăm

clāim

pă

pāy

răn

rāin

slăm

slāy

ea

= ē

mĕn	mĕan	ee	pĕp	pĕep
bĕd	bĕad		Kĕn	kĕen
mĕt	mĕat		fĕll	fĕel

oa

= ō

oe

cōt	cōat	tōp	tōe
rōd	rōad	hōt	hōe

ue = ū

cūt	cūe
hūm	hūe

## V O W E L C O M B I N A T I O N S

Other vowel combinations form new sounds. Long and short ōō sound

fōōt	brōōm
hōōk	rōōm
bōōk	tōō
cōōk	zōō
lōōk	dōōm
stōōd	bōōt
wōōl	gōōse

Some vowel sounds may be spelled several different ways.

## V O W E L C O M B I N A T I O N S

au - aw Sound

<u>au</u> to	l <u>aw</u> n
Paul	s <u>aw</u>
<u>hau</u> l	<u>draw</u>
<u>fraud</u>	<u>law</u>
<u>hawk</u>	<u>au</u> ction
<u>caugh</u> t	<u>walk</u>
<u>bal</u> d	<u>co</u> st
<u>walt</u> z	<u>daw</u> n



broad                  vault  
ou - ow Sound

house                  cow

ouch                  town

loud                  owl

er - ir - ur Sound

term                  bird                  nurse

herd                  first                  hurt

verb                  girl                  turn

oi - oy Sound

soil                  boy

coin                  enjoy

point                  toy

Write another word for each of these sounds and underline the vowel.