



Phonics

Level C

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Vowel Sounds					
Short Vowel	Sound	Example	Long Vowel	Sound	Example
a	ă	apple	a	ā	cake
e	ĕ	egg	e	ē	feet
i	ĭ	big	i	ī	bike
o	ŏ	lock	o	ō	coat
u	ŭ	bus	u	ū	mule

Blends		
In a blend , you hear <u>both</u> consonants.		
r blends	l blends	s blends
<u>b</u> ride	<u>b</u> loom	<u>s</u> cale
<u>c</u> rayon	<u>c</u> lown	<u>s</u> kate
<u>d</u> ragon	<u>f</u> lower	<u>s</u> mile
<u>g</u> rapes	<u>g</u> lad	<u>s</u> pell
<u>p</u> retzel	<u>p</u> lane	<u>s</u> tar
<u>t</u> rain	<u>s</u> lide	<u>s</u> wing

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Consonant Digraphs

A **consonant digraph** is two consonants that make one sound.

th	wh	sh	kn	ch
<u>t</u> he	<u>w</u> hat	<u>s</u> he	<u>k</u> nee	<u>c</u> hair
<u>t</u> his	<u>w</u> heel	<u>s</u> hirt	<u>k</u> nife	<u>c</u> halk
<u>t</u> humb	<u>w</u> hen	<u>s</u> hoe	<u>k</u> not	<u>c</u> heese
<u>t</u> hin	<u>w</u> hy	<u>s</u> hy	<u>k</u> now	<u>c</u> hin

Sound Rules

Rule	Description
Soft c	When c is followed by e , i , or y , it usually has a soft sound. The soft sound of c sounds like s . Examples: mice, face, ice, rice, pencil
Soft g	When g is followed by e , i , or y , it usually has a soft sound. The soft sound of g sounds like j . Examples: giraffe, gym, giant, cage, page

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Contractions

A **contraction** is a short way of writing two words. We use this mark (') to take the place of the missing letters.

cannot → can't
 I will → I'll
 do not → don't
 will not → won't
 does not → doesn't
 could not → couldn't
 they are → they're
 he is → he's
 I am → I'm
 is not → isn't
 was not → wasn't

would not → wouldn't
 we are → we're
 you are → you're
 it is → it's
 she is → she's
 that is → that's
 she will → she'll
 they will → they'll
 he will → he'll
 we will → we'll

Alphabetical Order

In a dictionary, words are listed in alphabetical order. If there are several words, and the first letter of the words is the same, look at the second letter. If the first two letters of the words are the same, look at the third letter.

Example: chease child chair = chair, cheese, child

Guide Words

Guide words appear at the top of each dictionary page. The guide words tell you the first word and last word on the page. All the words on the page are in alphabetical order between the guide words.

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Rules for Adding -ed or -ing

1. When a short vowel word ends in a single consonant, you usually double the final consonant before adding **-ing** or **-ed**.

Examples: nap → napping
 jog → jogging
 stop → stopped

2. When a word ends in a silent **e**, drop the **e** before adding **-ing** or **-ed**.

Examples: leave → leaving
 ride → riding
 save → saved

Adding a Prefix

A **prefix** comes at the beginning of a word. It changes the meaning of the word.

re- means "again"

pre- means "before"

dis-/mis-/un-/im-/in- can mean "not," "wrongly," or "opposite of."

Adding a Suffix

A **suffix** is added to the end of a word. It changes the meaning of the word.

-ful means "full of"

-less means "without"

-ly means "doing something in a certain way"

-ness means "being a certain way"

-ment means "a condition of being a certain way"

-er is used to compare two people or things. "

-est is used to compare compare three or more people or things

-er can also mean "a person who"

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Rules for Dividing Words into Syllables

1. A one-syllable word is never divided.
2. Divide a compound word between the words that make up the compound word.
Examples: backyard → back - yard
3. When a word has a suffix with a vowel sound in it, divide the word between the base word and the suffix.
Example: fearless → fear - less
4. When two or more consonants come between two vowels, the word is usually divided between the first two consonants.
Examples: finger → fin - ger doctor → doc - tor
5. When a word has a prefix, divide the word between the base word and the prefix.
Example: renew → re - new
6. When a vowel is sounded alone in a word, it forms its own syllable.
Example: pyramid → pyr - a - mid ago → a - go
7. When two vowels come together in a word and they both are sounded separately, divide the word between the two vowels.
Example: lion → li - on radio → ra - di - o
8. When a single consonant comes between two vowels in a word, you usually divide the word after the consonant if the first vowel is short.
Example: visit → vis - it wagon → wag - on
9. When a word ends in **le** and is preceded by a consonant, divide the word before that consonant.
Example: riddle → rid - dle simple → sim - ple

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Plurals		
1. A plural means more than one. Most words just add -s when making a word plural.		
Examples:		
desk	→	desk <u>s</u>
table	→	table <u>s</u>
book	→	book <u>s</u>
straw	→	straw <u>s</u>
2. When a word ends in s, x, z, ch, or sh , we usually add -es to make the word plural.		
Examples:		
bus	→	buse <u>s</u> (buss <u>e</u> s)
box	→	box <u>e</u> s
buzz	→	buzz <u>e</u> s
peach	→	peach <u>e</u> s
brush	→	brush <u>e</u> s

