

Pre and Post Assessments

Use the Pseudoword Reading Assessment and Pseudoword Spelling Assessments on pages 274 & 276. These assessments will show what knowledge students have before you begin teaching this topic. You can retest at the end of teaching to measure progress made.

Definition

A syllable is a unit of pronunciation, like a beat in words that always contains a vowel sound.

Some words have only one syllable (*book*) and others have two (*pen/cil*), three (*tom/a/to*), four (*hel/i/cop/ter*) and more (*in/spir/a/tion/al*).

Every syllable contains one of these vowel sounds:

- a *short vowel* sound pat, pet, pit, pot, putt, put
- a *long vowel* sound pay, tree, my, home, stew, glue
- an 'oy' sound boy
- an 'ow' sound cow
- an *r controlled vowel* sound
 'ar', 'er', 'or' car, her, for
 'air', 'ear' hare, here
- an 'il' ending ta/ble

A syllable will contain one of these vowel spelling patterns:

- a single letter
 a vowel apron, cat, even, pet, item, sit, open, hot, unit, cut
 y baby, cry, gym
- two vowels
 two vowels together train, green, pie, coat, spoon, nuisance
 a vowel plus final e gate, scene, like, bone, cute, flute
- vowel(s) plus consonant(s)
 vowel(s) plus w awful, sew, few, view, show
 vowel(s) plus r art, her, fir, for, fur, early, sheer, chair
 vowel(s) plus y play, they, money, boy, guy
 vowel(s) plus g, gh high, straight, though, caught, eight
 vowel plus l chemical, table, angel, pencil, symbol, mogul