

Vowel Sounds



VOWEL SOUNDS

Short Vowel Sounds

a (bat)	Spells a
e (bet)	Spells e, ea
i (bit)	Spells i
o (pot)	Spells o, a, au, aw
u (but)	Spells u

Long Vowel Sounds

a (gate)	Spells a-e, ai, ay, igh (a, ea, ei, ey)
e (need)	Spells e-e, ea, ee, ie, y (e, ei)
i (nice)	Spells i-e, ie, igh, y (i, aye, eye, y-e)
o (yoke)	Spells o-e, oa, oe, ow (o, ough)
u (you)	Spells u-e, ue, oo, ew (u, ui, eu, ou, yew, you)

“oo” Sounds

short oo (book)	Spells oo, ou, u
long oo (moon)	Spells <i>same as long /u/</i>

Vowel Diphthong Sounds

au / aw (Paul / crawl)	Spells <i>same as short /o/</i>
ou / ow (mouse / cow)	Spells ou, ow
oi / oy (noise / boy)	Spells oi, oy

“r” Controlled Sounds

ar (car)	Spells ar
er (her)	Spells er, ir, ur, (ar, or)
or (for)	Spells or (aur, oar, oor)

Other “r” Sounds

air (fair)	Spells air, are, ear
ear (dear)	Spells ear, eer

VOWEL SOUNDS / SPELLINGS TO TEACH

1) Short Vowels

- all regular short vowel spellings – /a/, /e/, /i/, /o/, /u/
- short /e/ **ea** (head)
- short /o/ au (haul) aw (saw)

2) Long Vowels

- long /a/ a-e (cake) ai (sail) ay (day) eigh (sleigh)
- long /e/ e-e (these) **ea** (heat) ee (jeep) **ie** (field) y (happy)
- long /i/ i-e (line) **ie** (pie) igh (light) y (fly)
- long /o/ o-e (bone) oa (boat) oe (toe) ow (snow)

3) Long /u/ Sound & Long /oo/ Sound

- long /u/ u-e (tune) ue (glue)
- long /oo/ **oo** (moon) ew (blew)

4) Short /oo/ Sound

- short /oo/ **oo** (foot) ou (could) u (pull)

5) Vowel Diphthongs

- ou / ow ou (house) ow (cow)
- oi / oy oi (soil) oy (boy)

6) R-controlled Vowels

- /ar/ ar (car)
- /er/ir/ur/ er (her) ir (stir) ur (fur)
- /or/ or (for)

7) Special cases

- /air/ air (fair) are (care) ear (bear)
- /ear/ ear (near) eer (cheer)