

CLOSED SYLLABLE



Definition

When a syllable has 1 vowel followed by 1 or more consonants then the vowel sound is short

up

vc

cat

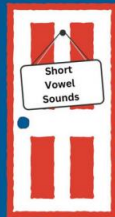
cvc

list

cvcc

clip

ccvc



OPEN SYLLABLE



Definition

When a syllable has 1 vowel that is at the end of the word then the vowel sound is long

no

cv

we

vc

me

cv

pro

ccv



VCE SYLLABLE



Definition

When a syllable has 1 vowel followed by 1 consonant and an 'e' then the 'e' is silent



ate

cve

ice

cve

Pete

cvce

home

cvce

fume

cvce

Long Vowel
and
Silent <e>

Closed Syllable Story

In a closed syllable there is at least one consonant after the vowel. We call this final consonant the "babysitter" of the vowel. While the babysitter is there, the vowel is calm and happy, so it says, it's soft sound (short sound).

Open Syllable Story

In the word *met*, the <e> is calm and happy because it has a consonant babysitter, so it says its short sound. But what happens if the consonant babysitter goes downstairs to take a phone call? Now the vowel is all alone and he gets scared. He wanders outside, looking for his mommy. He screams his name (long vowel sound) out loud to tell his mom, "E is over here!" The word *met* is now *me*.

VCE Syllable Story

In a closed syllable, the vowel has a consonant babysitter, so it says its happy short sound. Is there a way to make the vowel say its name when there is a consonant babysitter there? Yes! The vowel's best friend is 'e' can make this happen. <E> sneaks up to the window and sees that the consonant babysitter is sleeping on the couch. She doesn't want to wake up the babysitter so <e> is as silent as she can be. She whispers to her vowel friend, "Hey! Are you in there? Say your name if you're in there."

For example, let's imagine that 'l' has come over to babysit the vowel <a> in the word *pal*. When <l> falls asleep on the couch, <e> comes to the window and whispers, "A' are you in there?" The vowel <a> in the word *pale* says, "A is in here."

VOWEL TEAM SYLLABLE

Definition When a syllable has 2 vowels together (side by side), then the first vowel is long and the second vowel is silent

"When 2 vowels go walking, the first one does the talking."



aim

vvc

see

cvv

boat

cvvc

pie

cvv

hue

cvv

Long Vowel
and
Silent Vowel

VOWEL DIPHTHONGS

Definition When a syllable has 2 vowels (side by side) and they make a new sound.

"Two vowels go walking and make a brand new sound."



au

fault, sauce

aw

saw, raw

ow

now, crown

oi

oil, join

oy

toy, boy

ie

piece, field

oo

cook, look

oo

too, shoot

ew

new, dew

ou

out, shout

ou

youth, group

ea

great, break

Unexpected
Vowel
Sound

Vowel Team Story

Like the VCE syllable type, the vowel team syllable type is a way to make a vowel say its name. In a vowel team word such as *team*, we say, "Two vowels go walking and the first one does the talking." Imagine that the first vowel is the older sibling and he is walking his younger sister to school. They walk side by side. The <e> is older so he is more confident and does the talking if they meet an adult. The younger sister, <a>, is shy and stays silent.

Vowel Diphthong Story

The vowel diphthong looks like a vowel team because two vowels are side by side. However, the vowel diphthong is different than a vowel team because the vowels make a brand-new sound. Imagine two best friends are in music class. They each grab different instruments and start playing. The sound that they create is brand new. It is something totally different than either of them could make on their own.

r-CONTROLLED SYLLABLE



Definition

When a syllable has 1 vowel followed by an 'r' then the vowel makes a new sound with the 'r' that is not long or short

ar
car

or
for

er
her

ir
bird

ur
fur

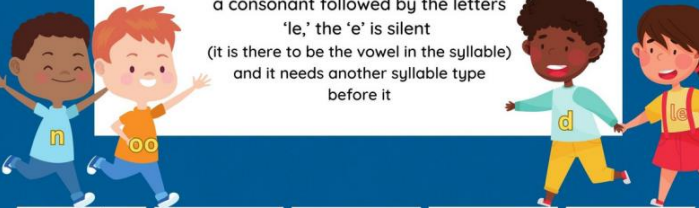
New
Vowel
Sound

r-Controlled Syllable

The sound of <r> is one of the hardest sounds to say. When a vowel is followed by an <r> we don't even try to say the vowel properly because it is just too hard. Instead, we make sounds that are neither long nor short.

Imagine the <r> is a race car and the vowels are just regular old cars. The <r> race car is much more powerful than the vowels, so it is in charge. The "r-car" revs its engine and shouts its name or makes its <r> sound and drowning out the vowels.

CONSONANT-le SYLLABLE



Definition

When a syllable has a consonant followed by the letters 'le,' the 'e' is silent (it is there to be the vowel in the syllable) and it needs another syllable type before it

puzzle
closed + cle

able
open + cle

beetle
vt + cle

noodle
vd + cle

sparkle
r-con + cle

New
Vowel
Sound

Consonant-le Syllable

The consonant-le syllable type is the only syllable type that needs another syllable type to be with it to make a word. The <e> in the 'cle' is silent.

Think of consonant-le as the two new kids in town. For example, imagine that <d> and <le> are two siblings. They have just moved to town so that don't know anyone. Two other kids, <n> and <oo> offer to show them around town. They walk around together, making the word *noodle*.