

1. **Short Vowel Weak/Vowel pattern** – a single vowel followed by one or more consonants. These are closed syllables.

sit, cup, mat, bed, not

2. **Short Vowels are affected by other vowels and consonants.**

sit	cut	mat	red	not
site	cute	mate	reed	note
sir	hurt	mall	berth	fort
niece	hue	may	bead	boat

3. **Protected and Unprotected Single Vowels** (These are often called **Short Vowels**) When a prefix beginning with a vowel is added to an unprotected vowel, the final consonant must be doubled so that the vowel will not change its sound.

Unprotected	Protected
sit	mist
bun	hunt
top	mock
star	crush
step	toss

4. **Floss rule** – Spell the sounds of f, l and s following a single vowel by doubling the letter. This provides protection when adding endings.

ff	ll	ss
stuff	tell	dress
staff	bill	fuss
puff	pull	class

5. **The G Rule** – The letter g sometimes has the sound of /j/. There are many short words that are an exception to this rule because this is the only letter that can be used to spell the hard sound /g/ as in goat.

gi	giraffe
ge	gene
gy	gypsy
dge	fudge*
ge	forge*

\*The /j/ sound is always spelled this way at the end of words.

6. **The C Rule** – This letter has no sound of its own.

Sounds like /s/	Sounds like /k/
cell	copy
city	cake
cycle	cut
	crown, click, crest

7. **The GE, DGE Rule** – The /j/ sound following a short vowel is spelled **-dge**. The d provides protection from the silent e and when suffixes beginning with -e, -y, and -i. (-ed, -es, -er, -est, -ing, -y)

Weak Vowel	Protected Weak Vowel	Strong Vowel
fudge	bulge	page
ledge	tinge	stage
badge	large	stooge

## Spelling Generalizations

**8. The CH, TCH Rule** – The sound of /ch/ is spelled tch after the single short vowel. The t is silent.

Single Vowel	Protected Weak Vowel	Strong Vowel
pitch	lunch	touch
hatch	church	teach
notch	quench	coach

**9. The K, CK Rule** - The sound of /k/ is spelled ck after a single vowel with the short vowel sound

Short or single Vowel	Protected Single Vowel	Strong Vowel
neck	ask	shook
back	walk	speak
lick	shark	hawk

**10. SORE – VE Rule** - Words ending in these letters almost always have a silent e at the end.

S*	ORE	VE
house	snore	live
hose	more	give
pulse	store	serve
tense	lore	valve

\*Distinguishes root word from plurals

**11. The IE rule.** The long sound of /ee/ is often spelled ie in one syllable words unless the sound immediately follows the soft sound of c.

ie	cei	ei
piece	ceiling	weight
relief	conceit	their
lien	receive	vein

**12. The –QU Rule** - The letter q is almost always followed by the letter u. The spelling has the sound /kw/. At the end of words the sound of the spelling is usually /k/

/kw/	/k/
quick	antique
quail	boutique
quotient	unique

**13. The Y Rule** – The letter has three sounds and functions as a consonant when at the beginning of a syllable or vowel when in the middle or end of the word. The letter Y is more frequently used as a vowel rather than a consonant.

Beginning	Middle	End
yl	il	iel
yard	gym	sandy
yes	gypsy	icy
you	lynch	ugly
year	myth	baby
		rhyme
		style
		analyze
		lyre
		reply
		lying
		try

## Spelling Generalizations

# Word Analysis and Sorting Activities

## Key Words for Consonant Sounds

The following key sounds are the same words used in Say It Slowly, Say It Fast. Simple syllables are primarily used because they are easier to analyze. Place pictures or words in a pocket chart or write the words in the headings of charts.

<b><u>b</u>all</b>	<b>do<u>g</u></b>	<b>fa<u>n</u></b>
<b>goa<u>t</u></b>	<b>ha<u>t</u></b>	<b>ju<u>i</u>ce</b>
<b>ke<u>y</u></b>	<b>lea<u>f</u></b>	<b>mo<u>s</u>e</b>
<b>no<u>s</u>e</b>	<b>pi<u>g</u></b>	<b>ro<u>s</u>e</b>
<b>su<u>n</u></b>	<b>tee<u>t</u>h</b>	<b>ve<u>s</u>t</b>
<b>wi<u>g</u></b>	<b>ya<u>m</u></b>	<b>cha<u>i</u>r</b>
<b>sho<u>e</u></b>	<b>wha<u>l</u>e</b>	<b>th<u>u</u>mb</b>
<b>fea<u>t</u>her</b>	<b>ri<u>n</u>g</b>	<b>treasu<u>r</u>e</b>
<b>que<u>e</u>n</b>	<b>bo<u>x</u></b>	

## Consonant Sounds With Common

### Multiple Spellings

<b>/f/</b>	<b>/j/</b>	<b>/k/</b>	<b>/n/</b>
<b>fa<u>n</u></b>	<b>ju<u>i</u>ce</b>	<b>ke<u>y</u>, bo<u>o</u>k</b>	<b>no<u>s</u>e</b>
<b>pho<u>n</u>e</b>	<b>fud<u>g</u>e, ge<u>r</u>m</b>	<b>ca<u>r</u>, tal<u>c</u></b>	<b>kn<u>o</u>t</b>
	<b>gi<u>n</u>ger</b>	<b>lo<u>o</u>k</b>	
	<b>gy<u>m</u></b>	<b>cho<u>r</u>d</b>	
	<b>edu<u>c</u>ate</b>	<b>uni<u>q</u>ue</b>	
	<b>co<u>r</u>dial</b>		
<b>/r/</b>	<b>/s/</b>	<b>/z/</b>	<b>/ch/</b>
<b>ro<u>s</u>e</b>	<b>su<u>n</u>, bu<u>s</u></b>	<b>zo<u>o</u>, pri<u>z</u>e</b>	<b>cha<u>i</u>r</b>
<b>wri<u>s</u>t</b>	<b>fa<u>o</u>ce</b>	<b>ho<u>s</u>e</b>	<b>wa<u>t</u>ch</b>
	<b>ci<u>t</u>y</b>	<b>fa<u>n</u>s, ru<u>g</u>s **</b>	
	<b>cy<u>s</u>t</b>	<b>xy<u>l</u>em</b>	
<b>/sh/</b>	<b>/zh/</b>	<b>/qu/</b>	<b>/x/</b>
<b>sho<u>e</u>, fi<u>sh</u></b>			
<b>che<u>f</u></b>	<b>treasu<u>r</u>e</b>	<b>que<u>e</u>n</b>	<b>bo<u>x</u></b>
<b>spe<u>o</u>cial</b>	<b>vi<u>s</u>ion</b>		<b>ex<u>a</u>ct</b>
<b>acti<u>o</u>n</b>			
<b>passi<u>o</u>n</b>			

# Vowel Spelling Patterns

This table summarizes spelling patterns based on vowels. Notice that the vowel is the focal point. This type of analysis works with any approach to blending but especially well with vowel first blending which is the best approach for teaching blending.

VC & VC+*	VCE**	V***	VV
i__	e__e	e	ee, ea.
e__	a__e	a	ay, ai,
a__	o__e	o	oa, ow, oe
u__	u__e	u	ue, ew,
o__	i__e	i	ie, igh,
y__		y	oi, oy,
* Closed Syllable	** bopper E	*** Open syllable	au, aw
<b>VR &amp; VRC</b>	<b>VRE</b>	<b>VRV/VRRV</b>	<b>ou, ow</b>
ar	ere	err__	oo
er, ir, ur	are	__arr__	
or	ure	irr__	<b>VVR</b>
	ore	orr__	air
	ire		ear, ier, eer
<b>C+LE</b>			oar
table	kettle		our
pickle	middle		
topple	baffle		
Part of the root & the only vowel.			

The VRRV and C+LE are only in multi-syllabic words.  
The vowels in VRV words will have their short sounds.  
Examples: berry, carry, tariff, spirit, mirror

**Vowel Teams** – Vowel sounds spelled with two or more letters. Most vowel sounds, other than short vowels, in one-syllable words are spelled this way.

Sound	Key Word	Spellings
/e/	bed	_ea_
/ae/	cake	ai__ay__ei__eigh
/ee/	feet	ee__ie__
/ie/	bike	_igh__ie__
/oe/	boat	oa__ow__ough__oe
/ue/	mule	_ew__ue__eu__
/au/	saw	au__aw
/oo/	boot	oo__ew__ue
/oi/	boy	oi__oy
/ou/	cow	ou__ow
/oo/	foot	oo__u__
/er/	bird	er__ir__ur__or
/or/	horse	or
/ar/	star	ar

A line before the spelling means that the spelling is *primarily* used at the end of a word. The others are used primarily within the root of the word.