

Phoneme- Grapheme Correspondences

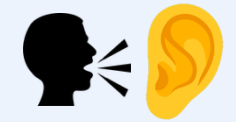
Updated July 2024



Reading
Is Fundamental

until every child reads

Phonemes vs. Graphemes

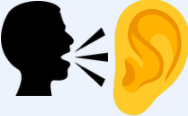



A **phoneme** is the smallest unit of spoken sound and is often the one thing that distinguishes one word from another (e.g., what you hear in the sound /k/)



A **grapheme** is the smallest unit of written language, what you see (e.g., the sound /k/ can be written for you to see 5 ways: *c, k, ck, qu, ch*)

Fundamental reading skills involve being able to take words apart and put them back together again to create new words.

Understanding the connection between what words sound like (*phonemes*)  and what they are represented by in writing (*graphemes*)  is a **vital skill** for understanding how to read print.

Phoneme-Grapheme Correspondences: Activity

On the following slides you will hear the sounds of 45 **phonemes** and see their corresponding **graphemes**.

Please note that the **graphemes** for the **phonemes** shown are the most common spellings, but this presentation does not include all possible **graphemes** for each **phoneme**.

To begin, simply start the PowerPoint and you will hear each corresponding sound.



a





b





c

k

_ck



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d
_ed





e





f

_ff

_gh

_ph



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g

_ggg

gh





h

wh





i





j
_dge
_ge



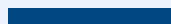


k

c

_ck







m

_mb

_mn





n

kn_

gn_





O





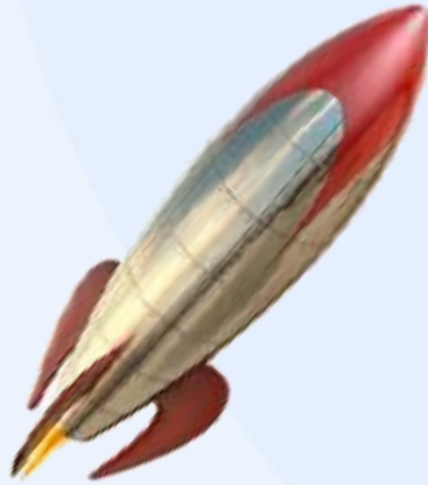
p





qu





r

wr





s

_ss

sc_

ps_





t

_tt

_ed





U





V





W





x

_cks





y





Z

_ZZ

S

X



Long Vowels

When the vowel says its name.

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a_e
ai
ay
eigh





ee

e_e

ea

_y

ie



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i_e

ie

_y

igh





o_e

oa

oe

ow

o_





u_e

ew



Diagraphs

A combination of two or more letters that work together to make a single sound.

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th

*like “*thumb*”





th

*like “*feather*”





sh





ch





wh



Diphthongs

A sound composed of two vowel sounds, causing your mouth to change positions as you say that sound.

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oi

oy





ow

ou





oo

u_e

ue

ew

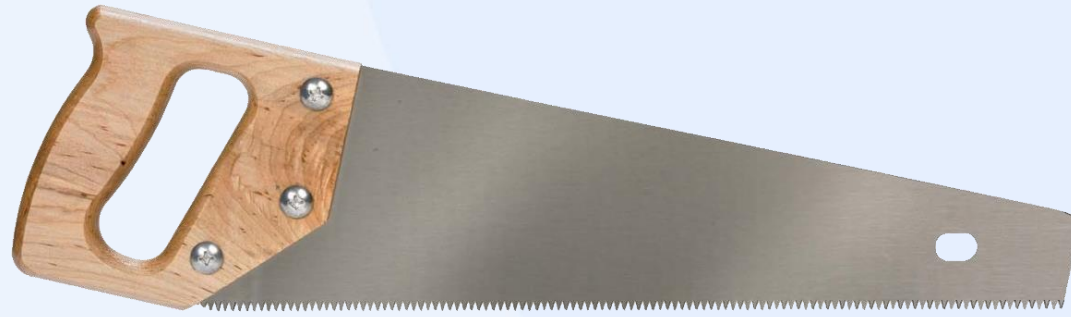




oo

u





aw
au
ough



R-Controlled Vowels

A vowel immediately followed by the letter 'r' and can no longer be pronounced as a long or short vowel.

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ir
er
ur
ear_





ar





or

ore





air
are
_ear



Additional Sounds

Reading
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until every child reads



/zh/

*s or z





_le





_ng
_nk

