

## ACTION PHONICS VOWEL PATTERNS & SOUNDS & SYLLABLE TYPES

These patterns represent frequently used spelling patterns in the English Language. While these spelling patterns help figure out many words, there are many exceptions to the patterns. Therefore, a reader often needs to try other sound possibilities and to figure out words from the context, or find out the word some other way.

9 or 99 = consonant letter/s      999 = syllable or word      \* = pattern with more than one sound

Pattern	Sound	Key Words
<b>1. Closed Syllables</b>		
9 o 9	/ə/	odd, hot, box
9 i 9	/ɪ/	icky, sit, <i>igloo</i>
9 a 9	/ə/	apple, had, am
9 u 9	/ʌ/	up, cut, mud
9 e 9	/e/	Ed, wet, red
<b>2. Silent E Syllables</b>		
9 a 9 e	/ə/	ace, make, came
9 e 9 e	/e/	Pete, these, eke
9 i 9 e	/ɪ/	ice, hide, like
9 u 9 e*	/ʊ/, /oo/	cute, tune, June *rule
9 o 9 e*	/ə/	home, rode
	/ʌ/	come, love, done
<b>3. Open Syllables*</b>		
9 a	/ə/	<i>acorn</i> , baby, table
9 e	/e/	me, <i>meter</i> , <i>secret</i>
9 i	/ɪ/	hi, <i>silent</i> . tiger
9 u	/ʊ/	<i>unicorn</i> , music
9 o	/ə/	<i>open</i> , solo
<b>4. R-Controlled Syllables</b>		
9 ar	<i>like word are</i>	car, jar, art
9 or	<i>like word or</i>	or, fork, sort
9 er	/er/	her, fern
9 ir	/er/	irk, shirt, first
9 ur	/er/	hurt, urn, nurse

\*italicized parts are not open syllables

<b>(2) Silent E (with R as the consonant)</b>		
9 are	<i>like word air</i>	care, share, dare
9 ore	<i>like word or</i>	store, more, bore
9 ere	<i>like word ear</i>	here, mere
9 ire	/ɪr/	fire, wire, Ire( <i>land</i> )
9 ure	/ɪr/ , /oor/	pure, ( <i>ma</i> )ture
Pattern	Sound	Key Words
<b>5. Vowel Combination Syllables</b>		
9 ee 9	/e/	eel, feed, see
9 oa 9	/ə/	oak, boat, soap
9 ay 9	/ə/	day, play
9 ai 9	/ə/	rain, nail
9 oo 9*	/oo/	moon, school
	/oo/	look, wood, good
9 ow 9*	/ə/	row, tow
	/ow/,	how, cow, tower
9 ea 9*	/e/	eat, meat, bean
	/e/	head, treasure
	/ə/	great, break
9 ew 9	/oo/, /ə/	new, dew, pew
9 ie 9*	/i/	pie, cries
	/e/	chief, niece
9 oi 9	/oy/	boil, oil, noise
9 oy	/oy/	boy, soy, loyal
9 aw	/aw/	awe, <i>awful</i> , straw

Vowel Combinations (cont'd)		
Pattern	Sound	Key Words
9 au 9	/aw/	August, haul
9 igh 9	/ɪ/	high, light
9 eigh9	/aɪ/	neighbor, eight
9 ui 9	/ɪ/, /oo/	suit, juice

9 ou 9*	/ou/	out, house
	/ə/	shoulder, poultry
	/oo/	soup, group
	/ʌ/	famous, rough
	/aw/	cough, thought

6. Consonant-L-E Syllable	Other Phonograms		
	Pattern	Sound	Key Words
ble - table dle - candle gle - eagle fle - ruffle ple - purple tle - bottle sle - hassle zle - puzzle cle - bicycle kle - buckle stle- whistle	9 al 9	like word all	fall, salt, mall
	9 wa 9	/wah/	want, water, wash
	999 ed*	/ed/	started, landed
		/d/	smiled, peeled
		/t/	milked, leaked
	9 wor	like word were	worship, work, world
	9 ear*	like word ear	ear, hear, fear
		like word air	pear, bear, wear
		/er/	learn, heard, search
	9 y	/ɪ/	my, by, try, sly, shy
	999 y	/ɪ/	baby, daddy, funny
	9 ind	/ɪnd/	kind, find, blind
9 old	/əld/	cold, old, mold, bold	

First Vowel Sound in Two-Syllable Words		
9 a 9 e 9	/a/	taking, planer
9 a 99 e 9	/a/	tacking, planner
9 e 9 e 9	/ɛ/	fever, Peter, seven, devil
9 e 99 e 9	/e/	better, petting, wetted
9 i 9 e 9	/ɪ/	diner, finest

9 i 99 e 9	/ɪ/	dinner, winning
9 o 9 e 9	/ə/	homes, hoping,
9 o 99 e 9	/e/	hotter, hopping
9 u 9 e 9	/ʌ/	cuter, muted, music
9 u 99 e 9	/ʌ/	cutter, pudding, funny

For VCV words, try (a) long (b) short (c) other

E:\0 - -CLASSES-LBL\0 - 420sp2001\Vowel Sounds & Syllable  
Types.wpd