

# 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

Short  
Vowel  
Sounds



## The 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



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



Long  
Vowel  
Sounds





## The 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**

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
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Long Vowel and Silent <e>



## The VCE Story

In a closed syllable, the vowel has a consonant baby sitter so it says it happy short sound. Is there a way to make the vowel says 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 your 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



## The 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 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."

<b>au</b> fault, sauce	<b>aw</b> saw, raw	<b>ow</b> now, crown
<b>oi</b> oil, join	<b>oy</b> toy, boy	<b>ie</b> piece, field
<b>oo</b> cook, look	<b>oo</b> too, shoot	<b>ew</b> new, dew
<b>ou</b> out, shout	<b>ou</b> youth, group	<b>ea</b> great, break

Unexpected Vowel Sound



## The 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



## The r-controlled Story

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' racecar is much more powerful than the vowels so it is in charge. The r-car revs its engine and shouts its name, 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 Story

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*.