Y1 Vowel Sounds

KS1 Y1 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Read the word: t-r-ai-n

Step 1 · Spot the two letters that make one sound

ai

Step 2 · ai makes the long a sound

t - r - ay - n

Step 3 · Blend

train

Answer: train

Check: 4 sounds, 5 letters. The a and i work together.

2. Now try one with the steps

Should you write 'plai' or 'play'?

Step 1 · Both ai and ay make the long a sound

Step 2 · Where is the sound in the word?

Step 3 · ay usually comes at the end of a word; ai usually comes in the middle

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. Read this word: rain

2. Read this word: night

3. Read this word: boat

4. Which two letters make the sound in the middle of 'green'?

5. How many sounds are in 'light'?

6. Choose the right spelling: tod__ (ai or ay)

7. Choose the right spelling: t__l, like a dog's tail (ai or ay)

8. Choose the right spelling: t__ (oi or oy), something to play with

9. Which word does NOT have the 'er' sound: girl, burn, cake?

10. Write two words that use 'ow' to make the sound in 'cow'.

11. The letters 'ow' can make two sounds. Read these: snow, cow. Which one says the long o sound?

12. Write a word that has the 'ar' sound.

13. Sort these by their vowel sound: moon, blue, soon, glue. Which two use 'ue'?

14. Write this sentence: The boy saw a bird in the tree.

4. Before you hand it in

Reading 'coat'-o-a-t, with four separate sounds.
Before blending, scan the word for letter pairs you know: oa, ai, ee, igh, oo.

Writing 'rayn' or 'plai'.

Ask: is the sound at the end? Then try ay. In the middle? Try ai.

Thinking every word with the 'er' sound uses er.

Learn each word's spelling. Write the word, cover it, write it again, then check.

Only ever reading 'ow' 'cow'.

If the word does not make sense, try the other sound. 'Sn-ow' like 'cow' is not a word you know.