

## Vowel Digraphs and Diphthongs Activities

When two vowels are beside each other and make one sound they are called vowel digraphs.

Vowel Diphthongs are two vowel sounds in one syllable.

ai (long a)	rain, pain
ay (long a)	hay, pay
ea (long e)	pleat, read
ie (long i)	pie, tie
oa (long o)	road, toast

	pause, fraud
aw	saw, hawk
ew	few, chew
ey	they, whey
oi	spoil, oil
oy	toy, boy
ou	loud, trout
ow	cow, brown

When teaching the child both digraphs and diphthongs:

Say the words sound by sound and have him/her tell you the different sounds he/she hears. Isolate the sound using slashes.

r/**ai**/n (digraph)

br/**ow**/n (diphthong)

Let the child blend the word parts together while putting added stress on the parts of the word that contains the digraph or the diphthong.

1. Ask the child to tell you other words that have the vowel digraph or diphthong you are doing.
2. List them and let the child copy the list, saying each word as he/she writes it.
3. Make flashcards with the digraphs and diphthongs.
4. Hold them up and let the child say the sounds.
5. On flashcards put the part of the word with the digraph or diphthong in a different color.

r/**ai**/n

After using flashcards, make the child match digraphs or diphthongs that rhyme.

**rain**    **pain** (digraphs)        **brown**    **frown** (diphthongs)

### Interactive Websites

<http://www.kizphonics.com/phonics/ai-vowel-digraph-long-a-phonics-game/>  
<http://www.starfall.com/n/make-a-word/two-vowels/load.htm?f>

### Books for Teaching Vowel Digraphs and Diphthongs

*The Peaches on the Beaches* By Brian Cleary  
*Goodnight Moon* By Margaret Wise Brown  
*The Rainbow Fish* By Marcus Pfister Herbert  
*Growing Vegetable Soup* By Lois Ehlert  
*The Boy Who Loved Words* By Roni Schotter  
*Chew, Chew, Gulp!* By Lauren Thompson