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Finches



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29 39

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Male finches make homes, which are nests, up on branches. They grasp such things as sticks and thatch in their bills. Thatch is made up of grass and stems.

Finches then use these sticks and thatch to make a cup in the nest. The cup is a place for their eggs. Finch eggs hatch in the nest. Finch eggs are close in size to dimes.

Finch chicks live in the nest. Finches chomp on bugs and things that they catch.

Finches can make nice pets in homes. Finches can sing well. People like when finches sing.

- I. Circle the words with digraphs ch, tch, or wh.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

Finches grasp such things as sticks and ______.

Finches make homes on ______.

string



scratch



A. Circle the picture that matches the three-letter blend. Then write the word on the line.

I.





one

2.





imp





B. Circle the word that names the picture. Underline the three-letter blend in the word.



stripe check



splash shell

3.



swing shrub



whale spring

Blends are groups of letters that work together. Some three-letter blends are *str*, *scr*, *spr*, *spl*, *shr*, *thr*.

<u>str</u>ap



spring



Write the missing three-letter blend to finish the picture name.



_____ ash



_____ etch



_____ing









_____ike

7

16

26

36

46

54

56

67

74

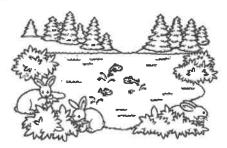
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86

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Spring Changes



Springtime brings change to land. Ice splits.

It makes lakes throb with fresh water. Striped fish

thrash and splash. They jump and plop with a "splat!"

Plants spring up around the lake. They thrive in the Sun. A spruce with big branches stretches up and up.

Rabbits with black splotches snack on plants. They thrive, too.

But then, a fox gets ready to strike! It chases the rabbits. The rabbits sprint with big strides.

They hide in a thick shrub. They get away with no scratches.

It is a thrill to gaze at. Springtime is splendid.

- I. Circle the words with three-letter blends.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

The _____ has big branches.

The rabbits sprint with big ______.

| Ν | a | m | е |
|---|---|---|---|

The letters ai and ay can stand for the long a sound.

rain



pl<u>ay</u>



A. Use a word from the box to complete each sentence. Then circle the letters that stand for the long *a* sound.

| train | day | wait | pay | mail |
|-------|-----|------|-----|------|
| | | | | |

- I. The _____ runs on the track.
- 2. We had to _____ for the snack.
- 3. She had to _____ a letter to her dad.
- 4. I will _____ at the bus stop.
- 5. Which _____ are you going home?

B. Write the word with the long a sound on the line.





I. cat









rose





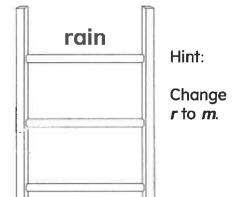


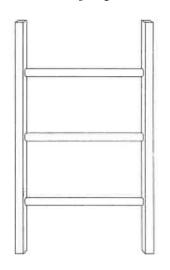




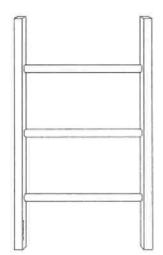
Finish each word ladder. Change or add only one letter at a time.

Go from rain to mail.
 Go from pay to clay.

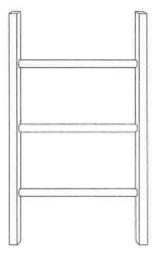




3. Go from brain to trail.



4. Go from way to stay.



Kay in the Rain



- The day is wet and gray. Kay sees rain.
- Kay is sad that she can not play.
- 27 | Splish, splash, pit, pat, tap. Rain drops hit the glass.
- Wait, Kay can still play! Kay can just stay in and play.
- 46 Kay can play with her red train.
- Kay can play a fun game. Kay likes to paint.
- Yes, Kay can paint with a paint brush.
- Kay can find lots of fun things to do.
 - Kay can find ways to play.
- 86 Kay can stay out of the rain.
 - Kay can play on this fun, gray day.
 - I. Circle all the words that contain the long a sound.
 - 2. Complete the sentences.

Kay sees ______.

Kay can still ______.

79

94

Some words have a long *i* sound. Listen to the vowel sound in the words *pie* and *night*. The letters *i, igh, ie,* or *y* can stand for this sound.

pie



night



might wild pried find skies by

A. Read each word below. Find a word from the box that rhymes. Write the word.

- I. why _____ 2. tries ____
- 3. light _____ 4. mild ____
- **5.** cried ______ **6.** mind _____

B. Circle the picture that matches the word. Underline the letters that stand for the long *i* sound.







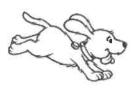


sky

flight

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tie

child

Some words have a long *i* sound. Listen to the vowel sound in the words *fry* and *rind*. The letters *i, igh, ie,* or *y* can stand for this sound.

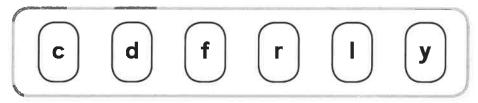
sky



rind



A. Look at the pictures. Use the letter tiles to write the name of each picture.









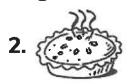




B. Look at the pictures. Finish the word that names each picture by filling in *i, ie,* or *igh*.



w _____ no



p _____



fr ______t



n _____ t

Sights at Night



Н

23

33

45

49

58

68

77

88

98

109

Ш

Dwight takes photos of the night sky. It is his job to spy in the sky. At night, Dwight can find the best sights. When it is nighttime, Dwight tries to spy high in the sky. Dwight might get a fine shot this night! The sky is just right!

Dwight unties his tripod and places it upright. He looks up. The moon and stars shine bright and high. Dwight snaps five shots. The camera flash is bright. The light from the flash makes the foxes hide in fright.

It is time for Dwight to drive home. The photo is just right!

Why, it is quite a sight! He snaps ten shots.

- I. Circle all the words with long i.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

Dwight takes photos of ______.

At night, Dwight can find the best _____

Some words have a long o sound. Listen to the vowel sound in the words cold, snow, goat, and toe. The letters o, ow, oa, or oe can stand for this sound.



snow



goat





Choose a word to complete each sentence. Write the word on the line.

I. I have five ______.





2. Our class will _____ pumpkin plants.

go grow got



3. I put on a coat to play in the _____

snow soap soon



4. I don't know if this boat will

fat float foam



5. My pet is big and _____

slow doe SO



Some words have a long *o* sound. Listen to the vowel sound in the words *roll*, *bowl*, *soap*, and *doe*. The letters *o*, *ow*, *oa*, or *oe* can stand for this sound.

r<u>o</u>ll



bowl



soap



<u>doe</u>



- B. Name the pictures. Then write the missing letters
- o, ow, oa, or oe to complete each word.

I.



c _____ t

2.



t _____

3



t ____d

Ц



t _____ st

5.



b _____ 1

6.



thr _____

7



r _____ c

8.



sn _____

Let it Snow!



10

2I 30

36

45

55

65

71

83

91 101 Joan throws on a coat. The coat will protect her, so Joan will not get soaked. Joan goes up the road. What is this? It's not rain. It is snow!

"Whoa! Snow in May? No way!"

Joan's classmate, Moe, loans her a hat and mittens. Joan picks up some snow and throws it. Moe shakes off the snow. He chases Joan. Moe throws snow. Joan laughs. Joan's face begins to glow!

Joan and Moe go up the road. Joan stops for a break. "Moe, I like to play in the snow!"

Joan and Moe sing "Let it snow, let it snow!"

- I. Circle the words that have long o.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

Joan throws on a ______.

Moe and Joan like to throw

Some words have a long *e* sound. Listen to the vowel sound in the words *he* and *bee*. The letters *e, ee, ea,* or *e e* can stand for this sound.



bee



leaf



Eve



A. Underline the letters that stand for the long e sound in the words below.

flee

she

sea sweep

fleet

flea

be

sleep

B. Choose a word to complete each sentence. Write the word on the line.

I. The bird stuck its _____ in the water.

bee beak bait

2. We ate green _____ for dinner.

pails peeks peas

3. The kitten got stuck in the _____

tea tree tap

is ten years old.

See Show She

5. I love to play at the _____

bike bean beach







Some words have a long e sound. Listen to the vowel sound in the words *leaf* and *Eve*. The letters *e, ee, ea,* or *e_e* can stand for this sound.

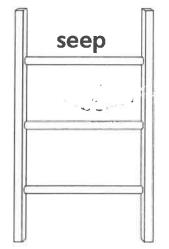






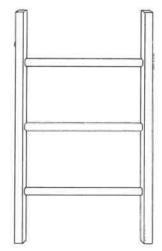
A. Finish each word ladder. Change or add only one letter at a time.

- Go from seep to peek.
 Go from bead to meat.

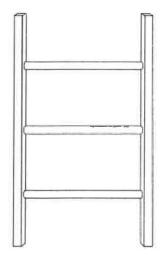


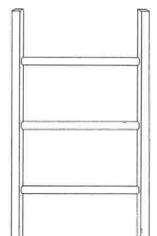
Hint:

Change p to k.



- 3. Go from seam to stream. 4. Go from sheet to sleep.





13

23

34

56

59

72

82

88

101

113

116

The Seal



It is time to feed Eve the seal. Eve eats fish for each meal. She leaps up and leans. She gets a fish!

Pete will teach Eve. He will train Eve to leap and play. Each time she does a feat, she gets a treat! Pete teaches Eve each day. She leaps up. She smiles and flashes her teeth.

Eve is on the seal team. The seals act in a big show. Each seal does at least three tricks. Then Pete feeds each seal. Eve gets three treats!

Eve is lean and clean. She has to be seen! Eve is the lead seal. She is indeed the queen. Kids like to see Eve steal the show!

- I. Circle all the words with long e.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

Eve eats fish for each . . .

Eve is lean and _____

baby

stand for this sound.

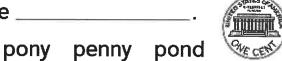


valley



A. Circle the word that completes each sentence. Then write the word on the line.

I. Ricky has three dimes and one _____



2. I can unlock it with my key study lily



3. We are so _____ this week. tabby jockey happy



4. Kathy can play ice _____ hobby hockey hanky



5. My pet _____ _____ is named Fluffy. bunny best donkey



B. Go back and circle the letters that stand for the long e sound in the answers you wrote above.

bunny



hock<u>ey</u>



Look at each picture. Write y or ey to complete the picture name.

1. pon ____ bab ____

vall _____ 60 sixt ____

5. 6.

pupp ____ | k ____

7. 8. penn ____ stick ____

4

14

20

25

32

40

50

60

64

73

82

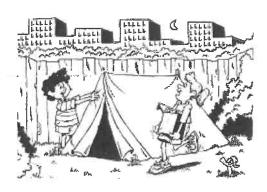
88

98

107

Abby and Mickey

Abby and Mickey went camping last week after their hockey game. They tried to find a sunny spot in Mickey's leafy backyard. "This will be



funny — camping in the city," Abby said.

"Yes, but this sunlight is fading," Mickey replied.

"Let's make the tent." Abby and Mickey found a little spot to place their tent on. The green leaves beneath the tent were icy.

Abby and Mickey wanted to sleep beneath the glassy sky. But the winds made the night really chilly.

"It's so windy out!" Mickey cried.

"This is silly. Let's go inside the tent," Abby said.

"It's lucky that our sleeping bags are so cozy."

- I. Circle all the words with long e spelled y, ey.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

Abby and Mickey went camping after_____

Their sleeping bags were ______.

The long u sound can be spelled with the letters u_e , ew, ue, or u as in the words cube, few, music, and cue.

cube



m<u>u</u>sic



A. Underline the letters that stand for the long usound in the words below.

| music | skew | rescue | mute |
|--------|-------|--------|------|
| refuse | value | unit | spew |

B. Circle each word from above in the puzzle below.

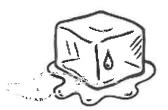
| i | x | а | у | r | d | g | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| V | а | I | u | е | b | f | у |
| w | 0 | s | t | s | р | е | w |
| m | u | s | i | С | Z | S | b |
| u | s | k | i | u | n | i | Ť |
| t | k | е | j | е | h | m | n |
| е | x | w | r | у | k | р | n |
| q | r | е | f | u | s | е | h |





Look at each picture. Write the missing letters to finish the picture name.

I.



c ___ b _

2.



men _

3.



4.



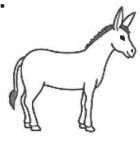
m ____ sic

5.



m

6.



Mules



Ш

23

35

37

57

47

67

73

83

94

105

113

Lots of people get confused and think that a mule is a donkey. That is not right. A mule is a cross between a horse and a donkey. Mules can be big, but they are not huge.

Humans put lots of value in mules because mules are so strong. Mules can be used in yanking plows. Mules can help humans raise crops. So, lots of humans use mules in lots of helpful ways.

What can mules use as fuel? Mules eat grain, like bran and wheat. Mules eat less than horses. If a mule works for too long, it will stop and refuse to work. Mules tell humans when they need to rest!

- I. Circle all the words with long u.
- 2. Complete the sentences.

Mules can be big, but they are not ______.

Mules help _____ to raise crops.

world





dirt





A. Underline the letters in each word that stand for the same r-controlled vowel sound you hear in the word shirt.

verb

curb

bird

B. Fill in the blank with the word that has the same r-controlled vowel sound as the word dirt.

- I. My friend is ______.
 - **a.** Herb **b.** Tom
- 2. I fell and _____ my knee.
 - a. hit
- **b**. hurt
- 3. He has the hose to _____ water.

 - **a.** spray **b.** squirt
- 4. My cat has gray ______.
 - **a.** eyes **b.** fur

When the letters er, or, ir, or ur work together, they stand for the sounds you hear in germ, worth, shirt, and purse. It is an r-controlled vowel sound.

herd



work



purse



shirt



Look at each picture. Circle the word that names the picture. Write the word.

burn bun



name nurse



skirt skip



3.



perch peach



stop stir Ш

20

31

43

54

57

68

78

90

100

Ш

120

Worms Work!



A worm is not just a meal for birds. Worms work! Learn about the worms that lurk in the turf.

But first, a note on dirt. Dead plants fall. Other plants fall on top of them. The plants press on top of plants under them. As the sun adds heat, plants will rot and turn into dirt.

That is when worms go to work. Worms eat germs in dirt. These germs can hurt plants. When a worm eats germs in dirt, it sucks in dirt. Then the worm will pass this dirt through its guts. Worms bring the best deep dirt up to plants on top. When worms turn dirt, plants thrive. Worms churn the turf to make dirt work!

- I. Circle all the words that contain the r-controlled vowel sound you hear in the word shirt spelled er, ir, ur, or.
- 2. Complete the sentence.

| Worms eat | in |
|---------------|----|
| V VOITIIS COI | |

Name _____

The letters *ar* stand for the sounds you hear in *farm*.

f<u>ar</u>m



Read each word below. Choose the words in the box that rhyme with the word. Write the words.

star stop jar fan car crop

I. far _____

rub plop dart black start art

2. part _____ ___ ____

bark brag clerk park perk dark

3. mark

far at farm jam charm harm

4. arm _____