

Reading Long Words

Open + Closed Syllable Switchboard

One consonant between two vowels: is the first chunk open (po|ny) or closed (wag|on)? Try the long sound, check the word, and switch if you need to.

po ny

po + ny: the first chunk ends with its vowel, so the vowel is open and says its name.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Lesson 1: open first chunks
- Warm-up, model and words to read together
- A chunk map and a reading activity
- An original story with reading strips
- Answers for every activity
- For early multisyllabic readers

1 Find the two vowels

2 Split before the consonant

3 Try the long sound

4 Not a word? Switch

Digital download • Print at 100% on US Letter • About 15 minutes a session • Supplemental practice, not a diagnosis or a full program

How this book works

Three lessons, four short sessions each.

This book is for a learner who can read closed chunks (sun, pet) but stalls on words like pony, motor and wagon, where one consonant sits between two vowels. Split before the consonant and the first chunk is open: its vowel says its name (po|ny). Sometimes the consonant belongs to the first chunk instead, and the vowel is short (wag|on).

Lesson 1 practices open first chunks, Lesson 2 closed ones, and Lesson 3 the switch: try the long sound first, and if it does not make a word you know, close the chunk and try the short sound. A word the learner has never heard can still be right: check it in the sentence, with a grown-up or in a dictionary.

EACH LESSON: FOUR PAGES

Learn	A warm-up, the routine, a model word (I do) and words to read together (We do).
Practice	Activities with help, and sentences to read aloud.
On your own	New words the learner has not seen in this book. The partner only marks.
Read it for real	An original story, questions, and words to spell.

MARKING

Right · Fixed it (the learner corrected themselves: count it as right) · Needed help. Note what went wrong, not just that it did.

NOT A TEST OR A DIAGNOSIS

Supplemental practice. It does not screen for or diagnose dyslexia or any reading difficulty, and it is not a full reading program. Progress depends on the learner, the time spent and the teaching around it.

PRONUNCIATION

The second chunk is usually said softly ("uh"): wag|on sounds like "wag-un". Teach "try it, then check it": the learner says each try aloud and asks, "Is that a word I know?" Both tries are good reading, even when the first one is not the word.

Open first chunks

motor, pony, paper: the first vowel says its name.

Before you start: reads closed chunks like sun, pet and hop.

WARM-UP

Three open chunks: each ends with its vowel, and the vowel says its name. Mark right, fixed it or needed help.

go



me



hi



THE ROUTINE

1. Find the two vowels
2. Split before the consonant
3. Say the open vowel's name
4. Blend and say it

I DO · THE ADULT READS ALOUD

mo tor

Two vowels, o and o. One consonant, t, between them: split before it, mo|tor. The first chunk ends with its vowel, so the o says its name. Blend: motor.

WE DO · READ TOGETHER AND DRAW A SCOOP UNDER EACH CHUNK

paper

pony

label

token

ADULT: WATCH FOR

Reading the open vowel short ("mot-or", "pap-er"). Cover the second chunk: "This chunk ends with its vowel. What does the vowel say?"

Practice: Open first chunks

Work with your partner. Help is fine here.

A Map it: write each chunk in a box. Underline the vowel that says its name.

bonus

chunk

virus

chunk

frozen

chunk

focus

chunk

B Read each word chunk by chunk, then blend. Tick when you read it.

ti ny
⌞ ⌞

read it ☐

la dy
⌞ ⌞

read it ☐

na vy
⌞ ⌞

read it ☐

to tal
⌞ ⌞

read it ☐

fi nal
⌞ ⌞

read it ☐

ma jor
⌞ ⌞

read it ☐

C Read each sentence aloud. Your partner marks the circle when every long word is right.

1. The tiny pony ate a carrot.

☐

2. The lady wore a navy coat.

☐

On your own: Open first chunks

New words first, then words at work. Use the routine; your partner only marks.

A Read each word aloud. Your partner marks how it went.

		right	fixed it	needed help
1	crazy	☐	☐	☐
2	gravy	☐	☐	☐
3	basic	☐	☐	☐
4	humid	☐	☐	☐
5	fever	☐	☐	☐
6	duty	☐	☐	☐
7	pupil	☐	☐	☐
8	raven	☐	☐	☐

Words right (fixed it counts as right): _____ / 8

B Read each sentence with both words. Circle the word that makes sense.

1. Sam had a ____ and stayed in bed.

fever

label

2. Pour the hot ____ on the potatoes.

raven

gravy

3. A black ____ sat on the fence.

raven

pupil

Read it for real

Read the story aloud. Answer the questions. Spell two words.

The Paper Lion

Ben made a lion out of paper for the school fair. It had a tiny nose and a total of nine stripes on its tail. He put a label on it: Please Do Not Touch. On the way to school, the wind blew the lion out of his hands. It flew over a frozen pond and landed by a raven. The raven pecked the label and hopped away with it. "A bonus for the raven," said Ben. He made a new label, and his lion won a ribbon.

READING STRIPS · READ EACH LINE THREE TIMES; TICK A BOX EACH TIME

a paper lion | with a tiny nose

☐☐☐

over a frozen pond | by a raven

☐☐☐

a new label | and a ribbon

☐☐☐

1. What did Ben make for the fair?

2. What did the raven take?

Spell it: your partner says a word. You say its chunks or parts, then write it.

1. _____

2. _____

PARTNER: TICK EACH LONG WORD READ CORRECTLY

☐ paper☐ tiny☐ total☐ label☐ frozen☐ raven☐ bonus

Lesson 1 answers

Open first chunks

Warm-up	go, me, hi
I do	motor (mo tor)
We do	paper (pa per), pony (po ny), label (la bel), token (to ken)
Sentences	"The tiny pony ate a carrot." "The lady wore a navy coat."
Watch for	Reading the open vowel short ("mot-or", "pap-er"). Cover the second chunk: "This chunk ends with its vowel. What does the vowel say?"
Practice A	bo nus (open + closed); vi rus (open + closed); fro zen (open + closed); fo cus (open + closed)
Practice B	tiny (ti ny); lady (la dy); navy (na vy); total (to tal); final (fi nal); major (ma jor).
On your own A	crazy (cra zy); gravy (gra vy); basic (ba sic); humid (hu mid); fever (fe ver); duty (du ty); pupil (pu pil); raven (ra ven).
On your own B	1 fever · 2 gravy · 3 raven
Story	1. A lion out of paper. 2. The label.
Dictation	paper (pa per), pony (po ny)

THE FULL BOOK

The full Open + Closed Syllable Switchboard has two more lessons (closed first chunks; the switch between them), a quick check, a final check with ten new words, word cards, a progress record and notes on errors.