
When Two Vowels Go Walking

Green Group: Lesson Thirteen

Number of Days to Complete the Lesson

2

Time

15 minutes each day

Activities

Day One-

1. Remind your child that, several lessons ago, he learned vowels make a different sound when there is a magic E at the end of the word. The letter A says its name like the beginning of the word "ape". The letter I says its name like the beginning of the word "ice".
2. Explain that you are going to learn about another rule that makes vowels say their name:

When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking and the second one goes out for tea.

3. Repeat the rhyme out loud with your child until he can say it comfortably.
4. Write down the word "boat" in black.
5. Use your red marker to underline the letters O and A. Say, "Look! There are two vowels in this word. They are taking a walk together because they are written side-by-side."
6. Say, "Remember, our rhyme said 'When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking.' What is the first vowel in this pair?" (The O.)
7. Use your red marker to circle the letter O.
8. Say, "If the first letter in the pair is O and it does the

Materials

- A piece of paper.
- A pencil.
- Two different colored markers: black and red.
- Two cut out and glued dice: The "Beginning and Ending Sound Die" and "Middle Vowels Die". Both are available on the Green Group: Lesson Thirteen webpage.
- Two copies of the "Roll a Word Record Sheet" available on the Green Group: Lesson Thirteen webpage.
- A book with words that have long vowel patterns. Most books will do.

talking, O is going to talk by saying its name: O."

9. Say, "Remember, our rhyme said 'The second one goes out for tea.' That means that the second vowel, the A, is going to take a break and not say anything. It is completely silent."
10. Use your red marker and X out the letter A.
11. Say, "If the O says O and the A is silent, we know that these two letters together make just one sound: /O/. Now we can sound out the word together: /b/ /O/ /t/. Boat!"
12. Write down a new word in black: "leap".
13. Complete steps 5-11.
14. Use your black pen to write "mail".
15. Complete steps 5-11.
16. Play "Roll a Word" with your child. To play,
 - Bring out a pencil and the two dice. Give your child one copy of the Roll a Word Record Sheet and keep one for yourself.
 - Show your child how to roll a word by rolling the beginning/ending sound di and writing the letter you roll on the first line of your record sheet.
 - Roll the middle vowels di and write the two letters you roll on the lines next to the first letter.
 - Roll the beginning/ending sound di again and write the letter you roll on the last line for the word.
 - Sound out the word you built.
 - If the word is real, write "yes" next to it in the column that asks, "Is the word real?"
 - If the word is not real, write "no".
 - Continue playing the game by taking turns rolling and writing words until both players have written seven words on their page.
 - The player with the most real words at the end of the game is the winner.
17. Remind your child that today he learned a new rhyme that helps him remember what sound two letters make when they are written side-by-side.

Day Two-

1. Explain that good readers learn rules that help them sound out new words quickly. Today you are going to practice the rule that says:

When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking, and the second one goes out for tea.

2. Repeat the rhyme several times with your child.
3. Write down the word "sail" in black.
4. Use your red marker to underline the letters A and I. Say, "The two vowels A and I are taking a walk together because they are written side-by-side."
5. Say, "Remember, our rhyme said 'When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking.' What is the first vowel in this pair?" (The A.)
6. Use your red marker to circle the letter A.
7. Say, "Since A is the first letter and it does the talking, it is going to say its name A."
8. Say, "Remember, our rhyme said 'The second one goes out for tea.' That means that the second vowel, the I, will be silent."
9. Use your red marker and X out the letter I.
10. Say, "If the A says A and the I is silent, we know that these two letters together make just one sound: /ā/. Now we can sound out the word together: /s/ /ā/ /l/. Sail!"
11. Before you read the book you have chosen, ask your child to help you look through it to find words with two middle vowels.
12. Each time that you find a word, sound it out together.
13. Read the book out loud.
14. Remind your child that he has learned a useful rhyme that helps him sound out words that have two vowels written side-by-side.

Follow Up Activities

- The English language is filled with exceptions to rules. For instance, using the "Two Vowels Go Walking Rule", the word "loop" should say /l/ /ō/ /p/.

When you and your child come across words that break a rule, point out that they are rule breakers. If your child thinks rule breakers are amusing, keep a list or tally of them in your reading area.

Prep for the Next Lesson

- Print a copy of the “Reading Comprehension Questions” available on the Green Group: Lesson Fourteen webpage.
- Select a book. Any book will do.