

# The Word's Greatest Secrets 

Second Edition

| What You Will Learn | Why |
| :--- | :--- |
| The Five Phonics Rules | The rules of phonics tell us when a <br> vowel is long or short. Once <br> mastered, reading is easy. |
| Blends, diphthongs, and digraphs | Blends help us hear and spell word <br> patterns correctly. |
| Hard and soft C and G | These are two common letters that <br> make more than one sound. |
| The two decoding skills for <br> multisyllable words. | Decoding skills show how to read <br> multi-syllable words. |
| When Y is a vowel | Sometimes Y is a consonant and <br> sometimes it is a vowel and <br> different rules apply. |
| Silent letter combinations and silent <br> letters. | Silent letters are decoded in a <br> special way. |
| Where to put the accent | Big words have accent rules. |
| This is a very straightforward <br> phonics program. It is not a reading <br> program. Phonics first, then reading <br> is so easy! | The lessons are thoroughly <br> explained. Students should show <br> increased ability to analyze words, <br> listen, express thoughts clearly, <br> improve spelling, and apply skills <br> to independent reading. <br> Basically, that's all there is to it. <br> Read the directions to your student <br> when necessary. |

## Table of Contents

Learning To Read Can Be Easy! ..... iii
Lesson 1: One Syllable Words. ..... 1
Lesson 2: L Blends ..... 9
Lesson 3: $\quad$ R Blends. ..... 13
Lesson 4: $\quad \mathbf{S}$ Blends. ..... 16
Lesson 5: The Three Letter Blends. ..... 18
Lesson 6: R-Controlled Vowels ..... 23
Lesson 7: Diphthongs. ..... 27
Lesson 8: Multi-Syllable Words. ..... 33
Lesson 9: Adding ING. ..... 41
Lesson 10: Consonant Digraphs. ..... 45
Lesson 11: Vowel Digraphs ..... 51
Lesson 12: $\quad \mathbf{C}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ ..... 56
Lesson 13: $\quad \mathbf{Y}$ is a Vowel and a Consonant ..... 62
Lesson 14: Silent Letters. ..... 65
Lesson 15: LE at the End of a Word ..... 67
Lesson 16: Syllabication ..... 68
Lesson 17 The Big Words ..... 70
Ready Reference Guide. ..... 72

## Lesson 1

## One Syllable Words



## Rule \#1

When a vowel is followed by a consonant, the vowel is short.


The keyword is l ĭp.
Rule \#2
When a vowel is followed by two consonants, the vowel is short.


The keyword is hă n d.

## Rule \#3

When a vowel is not followed by a consonant, the vowel is long.


The keyword is m e

## Rule \#4

When the last letter in a word is e , the e is silent and the first vowel is long.


The keyword is kit.

## Rule \#5

When vowels are next to each other, the first vowel is long and the second vowel is silent.


The keyword is $\mathrm{r} \overline{\mathrm{e}} \mathrm{d}$.

Short Vowel Review


## Directions:

Write each word in the space provided. Mark each vowel long, short, or silent.

| 1. mine | 2. ditch | 3. ice |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4. cake | 5. jump | 6. bed |
| 7. grace | 8. tide | 9. goat |
| 10. met | 11. meet | 12. lot |
| 13. use | 14. Ed | 15. ran |
| 16. lead | 17. deep | 18. fade |
| 19. made | 20. fist | 21. bone |
| 22. meat | 23. sheen | 24. yank |
| 25. cup | 26. bean | 27. joke |
| 28. feast | 29. maid | 30. feet |

## Lesson 6

## R-Controlled Vowels

This family of sounds includes words made from a vowel and consonant r . When decoding do not separate them. They are as one. When decoding, underline them.


## R-Controlled Vowels Mixed Review

## Directions:

Decode and write all of the words.

| 1. jerk | 2. burn |
| :--- | :--- |
| 3. pork | 4. fork |
| 5. perk | 6. target |
| 7. hurt | 8. sleek |
| 9. cloak | 10. beak |
| 11. sir | 12. third |
| 13. smile | 14. learn |
| 15. term | 16. cord |
| 17. twirl | 18. short |
| 19. start | 20. church |
| 21. chore | 22. curve |
| 23. dirt | 24. spark |
| 25. germ | 26. skirt |
| 27. purse | 28. target |
| 29. nurse | 30. bore |

## 10 Steps to Reading BIG Words Fluently

Begin by only looking at the first letter of the word, then the second, third and so forth. Only look at the whole word. Do nothing.

Now go back to the first vowel. Talk to it. Ask it if it has one or two consonants to its immediate right. Divide the vowel according to the two decoding rules.

Draw a box around the first syllable.

In the first box, mark the vowel long, short or silent according to the phonics rules. The first syllable is done.

Go to the second vowel. Talk to the second vowel. Ask it if it has one or two consonants to its immediate right, then divide the vowel as usual according to the two decoding rules.

Draw a box around the second syllable. Repeat steps one through five. If there are three vowel sounds in a word, then there are three syllables in that word, and you will have to draw three boxes. If there are five vowel sounds, then there are five syllables in that word, and you will have to draw five boxes, etc.
7 Pronounce clearly every letter and every sound in the first box, the second box and every box.

Only read one syllable at a time. You know the vowels so you don't have to guess anymore. You already know the consonant sounds because they keep their same sounds.

Decode every word in this book, then say it three times. Why say the words out loud? Because the fast path to learning anything is from:

$$
\text { your mouth } \Rightarrow \text { to your ears } \Rightarrow \text { into your brain }
$$

Practice. Practice. Practice

Everyone who reads well decodes. They just do it very, very fast, almost automatically without thinking about it. With practice so will you. I promise. This is easy.

NOTE: There are exceptions to all rules. There are even exceptions to our decoding rules which we will discuss latter.

## Type ONE Syllable and Type TWO Syllable - Mixed Review

| 1. prorate | 2. polite |
| :--- | :--- |
| 3. embrace | 4. microbe |
| 5. biology | 6. delete |
| 7. advance | 8. elementary |
| 9. athlete | 10. humane |
| 11. console | 12. calibrate |
| 13. brocade | 14. profane |
| 15. combine | 18. breve |
| 17. prudent | 20. insinuate |
| 19. crusade | 22. insulate |
| 21. instigate | 24. manufacture |
| 23. modem | 26. magnetize |
| 25. cumulate |  |

## Lesson 12 <br> C and G

You will learn:

- To read with the hard and soft sounds of c and g
- That a hard c and hard g are usually followed by vowels $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{o}$, or $\mathbf{u}$
- That a soft c and soft g are usually followed by e, i, or y
- That soft c sounds like s and hard c sounds like $k$
- That soft g sounds like $j$ and hard g sounds like g



## Lesson 13

## Y is a Vowel and a Consonant



When is Y a Consonant?
If $Y$ starts a word, it is a consonant.
yes yard yell yank yam

When is Y a Vowel?
if y is inside a one syllable word, $y$ has the sound of long or short yowel i.

$$
\begin{array}{cc}
\text { myth }=\text { mĭth } & \text { syrup }=\text { sĭrŭp } \\
\text { style }=\text { stīle } & \text { type }=\text { tīp }
\end{array}
$$

Another Y if y is at the end of a word, y has the sound of long vowel e.
play = plā风 baby = bābē

Just One More Y
if y is the only vowel,
it sounds like long $\overline{1}$

$$
m y=m \overline{\mathbf{1}} \quad \text { by }=b \overline{\mathbf{i}} \quad \operatorname{try}=\operatorname{tr} \overline{1}
$$

## Directions:

Decode each word and use in a sentence.

1. bifurcate
2. abdicate
3. simultaneous
4. perseverance
5. indelible
6. inalienable
7. dissipate
8. condescend
9. cessation
10. anesthetic
11. compliant
12. eligible
13. copious
14. collateral
15. enigma
16. conscience
17. exception
18. olfactory
19. consensus
20. colloquial
21. confidential
22. equipped
23. altruistic
24. loquacious
25. inveigle
26. perlocution
27. attenuate
28. sycophant
29. intrepid
30. shambolic
31. surly
32. obfuscate
33. rove
34. rocent
35. encomium
36. plutocrat
37. apoplectic
38. arete
39. pugilist
40. salubrious
41. arcadian
42. ludicrous
43. anthropocentric
44. pontificate
45. pernicious
46. precipitate
47. maven
48. pangram
49. lugubrious
50. alienist

## Helping students nationwide achieve reading fluency.

Read in 40 Hours or Less! is a revolutionary system that teaches students how to build a reading fluency to master 85\% of all English based words. This not only increases students' comprehension, spelling and aptitude dramatically-but their vocabulary, elocution and confidence as well.

This fun-packed, detailed reading system is filled with easy, effective, enjoyable exercises and lesson plans. Students will learn little-known phonics rules, decoding skills, alphabet letter shapes, consonant and short / long vowel sounds, blends, diphthongs, digraphs and lots more. All guaranteed to take the mystery out of the reading mastery of English words.

After completing the series, students will be able to decode well over 2,500 words, and have the ability to listen, analyze words, and apply phonics to independent reading; for greater reading fluency, and increased comprehension, along with verbal expression. This results in the completion of homework assignmnts and exams quicker and easier-better grades-and a greater love for reading.

Read in 40 Hours or Less! is being successfully used by students in Elementary, Middle School, High School, Community Colleges and Adult Literacy Programs throughout the country (including by English Language Learners).

## What others are Saying...

"...During the 6 weeks of using Read in 40 Hours or Less to tutor my niece; not only did she go from a Level 3 Reading Group to a Level 1, her overal grades improved as well. And she really enjoyed the program."
-S. Harris, Tutor
"Five of my students previously received lessons in Read in 40 from their 10th grade teacher. Before the lessons, they were reading far below grade level. Now they all read at or above grade level. They brag that they can read like a Ph. D. It is a delight to teach them. Read in 40 has the most effective and fastest results I have ever seen!"
-D. Oliver, 11th grade High School English Teacher

