

Coding Key for 1st Grade Phonics

Breve: A breve is a small curved line that is placed above a vowel to signify the short vowel sound.

Example: bat b a t

Macron: A macron is a small straight line that is placed above a vowel to signify the long vowel sound.

Example: me m e

Suffixes: Suffixes are boxed in and are not otherwise coded.

Examples: -s Plural: meaning more than one. cakes c a k e s
-ing Meaning: happening now. boxing b o x i n g
-ed Meaning: already happened waited w a i t e d
-ful Meaning: full of helpful h e l p f u l
-ly Meaning: having the qualities of closely c l o s e l y

Backslashes: Usually means the letter is silent Example: hope h o p e

Vowel Digraphs: When two vowels are beside each other, the first vowel is long and the second vowel is silent. Place a macron over the first vowel and backslash across the second vowel.

Example: ee sheep s h e e p

Consonant Digraphs: Two consonants come together to form one sound. Circle the digraph.

Example: th this (t h) i s sh shop (s h) o p ch chin (c h) i n

Consonant Blends: Two or three consonants whose sounds are **blended** together. Each letter within the **blend** is pronounced individually, but quickly, so they **blend** together. Circle the blends.

Example: cl clap (c l) a p sl slim (s l) i m st stop (s t) o p

Glued Together Sounds: **Glued sounds** are combinations of letters where you hear all the **sounds** but they are very close **together**. all. an. am. ang. ank. ing. ink. ong. Circle the group of letters to show them as a unit within a word. Example: ball b (all) can c (an) Pam P (am) sing s (ing)

Bonus Letters: When a one-syllable root word has a short vowel sound followed by the sound /f/, /l/, or /s/, it is usually spelled ff, ll, ss. Mark with a star * over the second letter.

Example: cuff c u f ^{*}f doll d o l ^{*}l pass p a s ^{*}s

How to Divide and Label a Word:

Vowel-consonant-consonant-vowel

Example: napkin n a p | k i n
 v c c v

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Rules

Vowel Rules:

Vowel Rule 1 ĥc

A vowel followed by a consonant is short; code it with a breve.

căť lög sĭť tŭg wět

Vowel Rule 2 \bar{v} ' →

An open, accented vowel is long; code it with a macron.

mē' fā' [ble spī]' der

Vowel Rule 3 \bar{v} -ē

A vowel followed by a consonant and silent *e* is long; code the vowel with a macron, and cross out the silent *e*.

hōpē nāmē rūlē thēmē

Vowel Rule 4

Open, unaccented vowels usually have the following sounds: *a* is schwa; *e*, *o*, and *u* are long; and *i* is short.

ə ə ə
a bā | năn' | a v → \bar{e} \bar{o} \bar{u}
i dĭ | vīdē' hă t ě l' J | ū ly'

K & C Spelling Rules

k before e, i, or y

keg kid milky

c before a, o, u, or any consonant

cat cot pactc

Final /k/ Spelling

ck after a short vowel

blackck duckck lockck

k after a consonant or a vowel digraph

(di-means two, and graph means letter)

bookk milkk weekk

ke after a long vowel

brokeke likeke makeke

c at the end of a word with two or more syllables

Atlanticc garlicc picnicc

Floss Rule

When a one-syllable root word has a short vowel sound followed by the sound /f/, /l/, or /s/, it is usually spelled ff, ll, or ss.

ff

ll

ss

cff

doll

boss

staff

hill

miss

stiff

well

pass

Final /v/ Spelling Rule

When a word has the final sound /v/, it is spelled ve.

have

live

hive

leave

solve

wave

Final /s/ Spelling Rules

ss after a short vowel.

boss

dress

fuss

ce after a long vowel.

ice

space

truce

se after anything else.

false

house

loose

Adding a Consonant Suffix

To spell a word with a consonant suffix, just add the suffix to the end of the root word.

cake + s = cakes

red + s = reds

care + ful = careful

close + ly = closely

Adding a Vowel Suffix

Dropping Rule

When a word ends with a silent *e*, drop the *e* before adding a vowel suffix.

make + ing = making

rule + er = ruler

Doubling Rule

When a final syllable of a word is accented and ends with one vowel and one consonant, double the final consonant before adding a vowel suffix.

hit' + ing = hitting

run' + er = runner

J & G Spelling Rules

j before *a*, *o*, or *u*

jam

joke

jug

g before *e*, *ii*, or *y*

German

giant

stingy

Final /ch/ Spelling Rules

tch after a short vowel.

crutch

etch

stitch

ch after anything else.

lunch

ouch

pooch

Final /j/ Spelling Rules

dge after a short vowel.

bridge

edge

judge

ge after anything else.

cage

lunge

stooge

Changing Rule

If a root word ends with a y after a consonant, change the y to i before adding a suffix (except for suffixes beginning with i).

silly + ness = silliness



play + ed = played

