

Book Fifteen Part Two

Syllables and “-ed”, “-ing”, “-tion” & “-ture” Endings

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A Progressive Phonics™ book

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Words that end with “ed”



Sometimes we add the letters “ed” to the end of a word. Usually, this means that something happened in the past.

For example, my dog barked a lot last night.

However, the “ed” sound doesn’t sound like bed or red, it sounds like this (see below) – you can hardly hear the “e” – you mostly just hear the “d”.



Last night, I **kicked** a ball all the way to the moon.

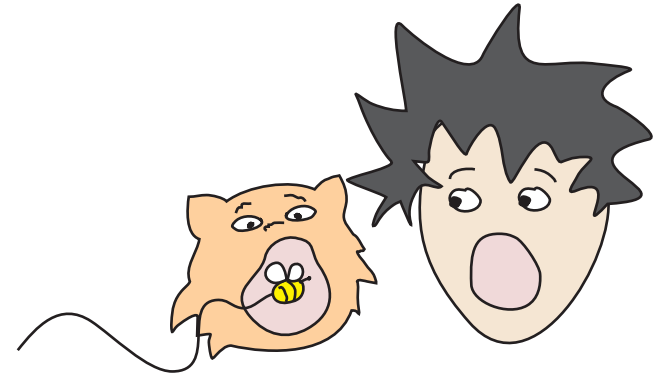


When she was one,
she **crawled** on the floor,
and now she is two,
she **crawls** a lot more.
Last night she **crawled**
all the way 'round the world.
She **crawls** rather quickly –
well, quickly for a girl.

Parent/teacher note: The exceptions (such as “started” and “needed”) are taught later in this book.



I **washed** my dog;
 I **washed** him well.
 Then I **washed** him again,
 but he still had a **smell**.
 Then I **smelled** the same **smell**
 on my hands and my clothes –
 then I found that the **smell**
 was inside my nose.



Last night, I **yawned**
 such a big **yawn**
 that my mouth was open
 all night until dawn.
 My cat **yawned** too –
 he **yawned** bigger than me;
 he **wished** that he didn't –
 he **swallowed** a bee!



Sometimes, when we add “ed” to very short words, we also add a second letter – this stops the “e” from turning into a naughty, silent “e” and reaching around and pinching the first vowel.



hug
hugged



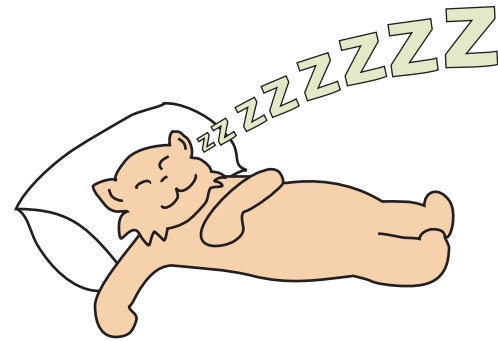
I **hugged** my
huge cat.



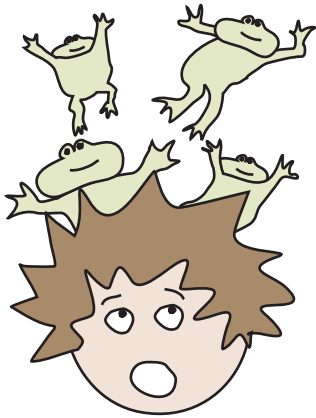
sip
sipped



I **sipped** my
milk.



My cat had to take a **nap**,
but he **napped** so long,
he **napped** so much,
that I never thought
he would **nap** enough.
Three years went by –
or maybe it was four –
when my cat woke up,
he **napped** some more.



Last week, a frog

hopped into my life.

He **hopped** with his daughter,

his son and his wife.

They **hopped** in the door

and under my chair.

And now they **hop**,

hop, hop in my hair.



If a word already has an “e” at the end,
we just add a “d”.



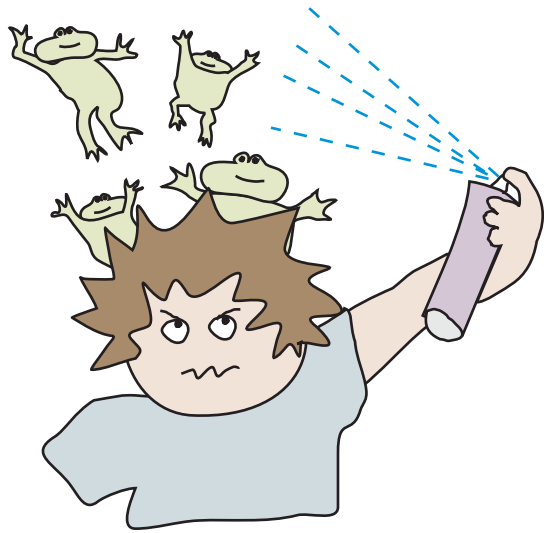
I **baked** a cake for your birthday.

I **baked** a cake, but it **burned**.

I **burned** the cake

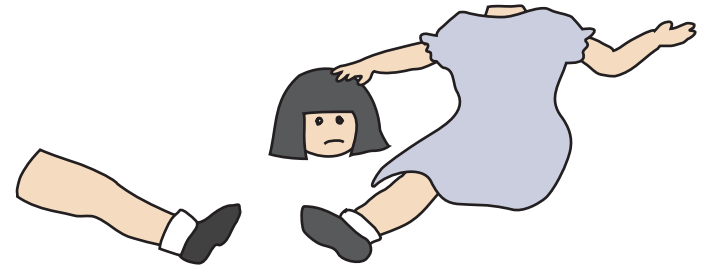
that I **baked** for you,

so now I will **bake** some worms.



I **hoped** the frogs would leave me –
 I **hoped** they would go away –
 but the frogs that **hopped** into my hair
 are still up there today.

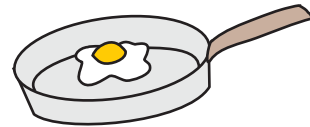
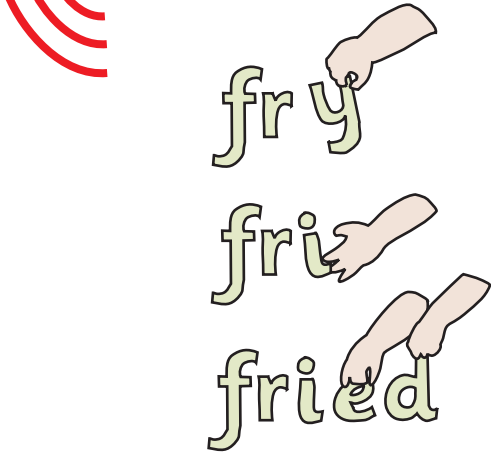
I will now put my head in water,
 and I **hope** that the frogs **hop** away.
 And if that doesn't work,
 I know this will hurt,
 but I'll squirt them with hair spray.



Though I like to **sneeze**,
 and I **sneeze** a lot,
 last night I **sneezed**
 and my leg fell off.
 I **sneezed** again,
 and my head **rolled** away –
 now I'm stuck inside
 and I can't go play.



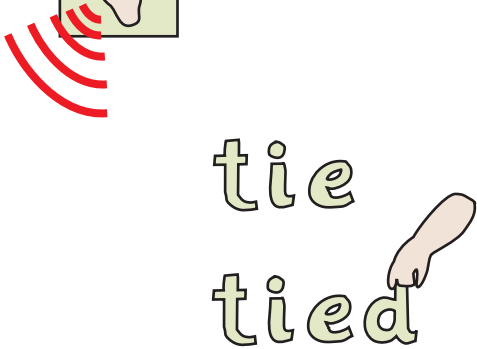
When a word ends with a “y”, the “y” changes to an “i”, and then we add “ed”.



I **fried** an egg.



But if the word already ends with “ie”, we just add a “d”



I **tied** my shoe with a pink ribbon.



Babies **cry** when they are hungry.

Babies **cry** when they are sad.

But when I was a baby,

I **cried** when I was glad;

I **cried** when I wasn't hungry;

I **cried** when I was asleep.

My brother says I **lied** when I **cried**,
so he never **listened** to me.



But if the “y” is right next to a vowel, like an “when a word ends with a “y”, the “y” does NOT change into an “i” – we add “ed”.

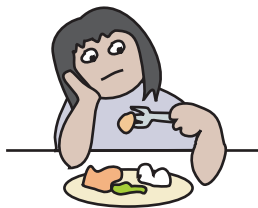
play

played

~~fry~~
~~fried~~



I like to **play** the piano;
I **played** it just last night.
First I **played** some music,
and then the piano said, “Alright –
now it’s time to **play** some cards,
or maybe a game of chess.”
And the piano won every game
we **played** – the piano was the best!



I wasn’t hungry
so I **toyed** with
my food.



The dog **stayed**
where he was.



The words “said” and “paid” break the rule.
Funny thing is, the two words sound very different.

say

sa y

sai

said



She **said**,
“Hello.”



I **paid** him
three pennies.



I walked to the store for ice cream,
but they **said** I was too small.

I did not know what to **say**,
so I **said** nothing at all.

Then they asked me to **pay** good money
for something I didn't buy.

So I **paid** them a lot of nothing,
and then I **said**, “Goodbye.”

Words that end with “ing”



Sometimes we add the letters “ing” to the end of a word.

When we add “ing” to the end of a word, the “i” sound is very small. This makes it sound a little bit different to the words “ring”, “thing” and “bring” –



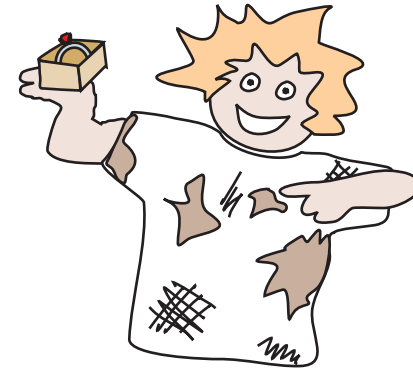
ring

ring



jumping

jumping



I am **bringing** a **ring** to my mother
 I am **bringing** it in a box
 And the **ring** that I **bring** to my mother
 is better than flowers or socks.
 I found the **ring** in the garden,
 when I was **digging** for worms in the dirt.
 I am **hoping** my mom really likes it,
 so she doesn't get mad at my shirt.



We add "ing" to some words when we're talking about **DOING** something –



He is **running**.



Yesterday he was **running**.

Tomorrow he will be **running**.

The cat is **sleeping** now.

The cat was **sleeping** last night.



And the cat will still be **sleeping** in an hour.



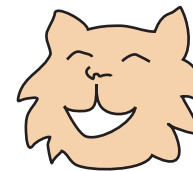
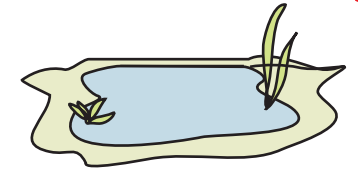
We also sometimes add "ing" to a word when we want to describe something or tell someone **WHICH** thing we're talking about...



The **running** dog.



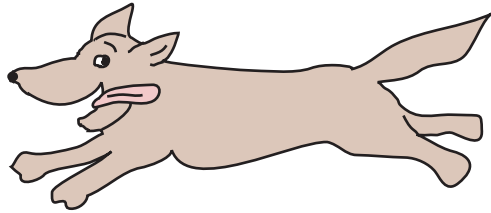
A river has **running** water;
a pond has **standing** water.



The **laughing** cat.



You will learn more about this later in school.
For now, all you need to know that we use
“ing” at the end of a lot of words!

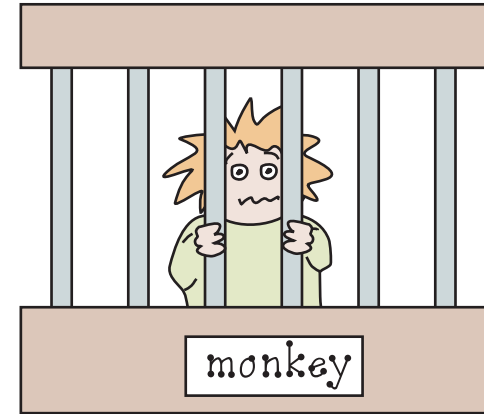


The **running** dog is **running**
all around the park.

The **running** dog keeps
running, even though
it is **getting** dark.

The **running** dog keeps **running**,
even when the sun doesn't shine.

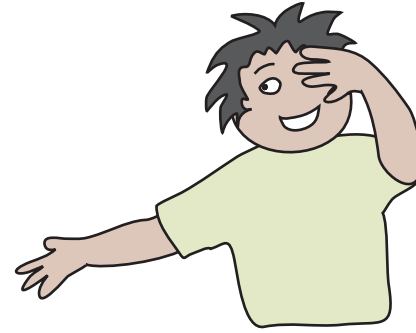
The **running** dog keeps **running** –
and I keep on **wondering** why.



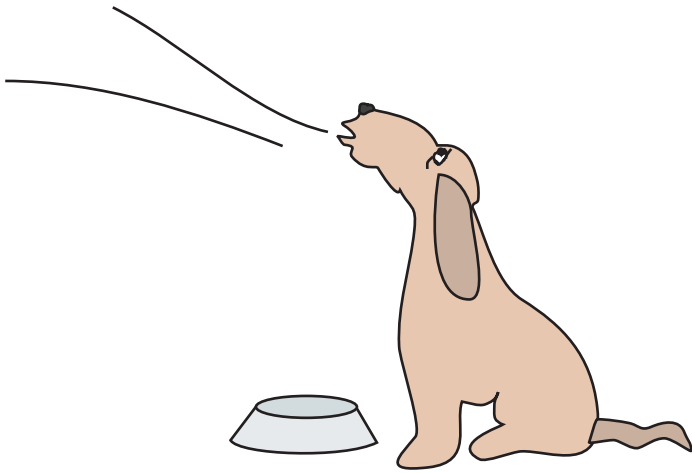
I am **going** to the zoo –
my brother is **coming** too.
We are **going** to the zoo,
but you aren't **coming** too
because we're **going** to the zoo
to take a look at you!



I like **being** a cat,
 but **being** a dog is better.
 And though **being** a frog is fun,
being a fish is wetter.
 But **being** who I am
 is the very best of all –
 I like to **be** myself,
 although I'm rather small.



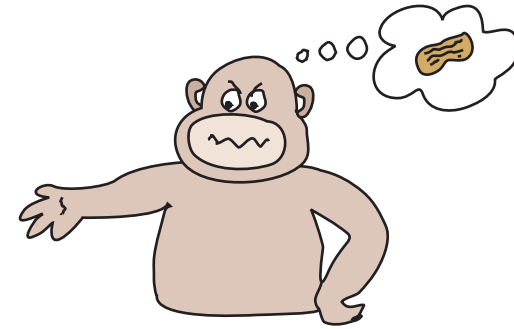
What will you **give** me
 if I'm **being** very good?
Giving me candy
 would be good – and you should!
Giving me candy
 would be a surprise –
 don't **give** it to me yet,
 let me first close my eyes.



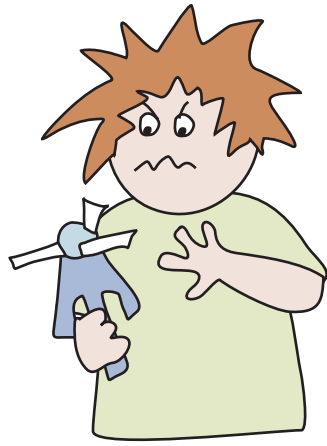
Listening to that noise
 is **giving** me a headache.
 I am **trying** to sleep,
 but it's **keeping** me awake.
 I wish that the dog
 didn't need to diet
 because **giving** him food
 is all that keeps him quiet.



The word “nothing” comes from the words “no” and “thing” – but we pronounce it differently.



A hungry monkey
 asked me for a **nut**,
 but I had **nothing** –
 well, **nothing** but
 a penny, a crayon,
 and a candy wrapper too –
 but the monkey wanted **nothing**
 but a **nut**, boo, hoo.

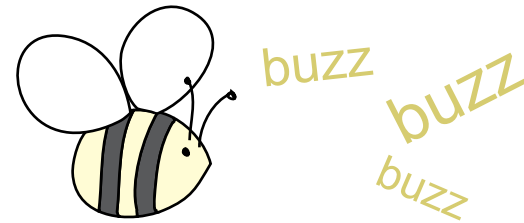


I think this **thing** is broken;
 I think this **thing** is dead.
 This thing does **nothing**
 when I hit it on the head.
 But if it did **something**,
 what **something** would that be?
 Well, better than **nothing**
 because **nothing** bothers me!

Because



The word “because” is a good one to know – why? Because it isn’t spelled how it sounds. “Because” is an important word that you have to know by memory.



A bee says, “buzz,”

because, because, because

a bee says, “buzz” –

that’s why, **because!**



I was **because**... I was.

It wasn't **because** I wasn't.

And **because** I wasn't...

or perhaps I was...

Why?

Well, **because**!

Syllables



Just like a sentence is made of words, a word is made up of syllables.

If you know how to break a word into syllables, it will be easier to read bigger words.

And to teach you, here is a Silly Bull who knows all about syllables. Ready?



Syl-la-bles

Silly Bull Rule 1



Every syllable has one – and ONLY one – vowel sound.

cat



chicken



sssh!



“Shhhhh” is not a word because it doesn't have a vowel sound.

Silly Bull Rule 2



The number of vowel **sounds** in a word tells you how many syllables there are.



pig



ti-ger



kan-ga-roo



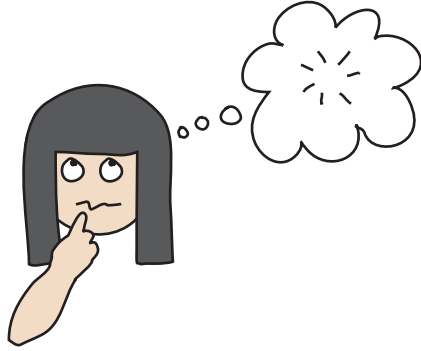
al-li-ga-tor



hip-po-pot-ta-mus

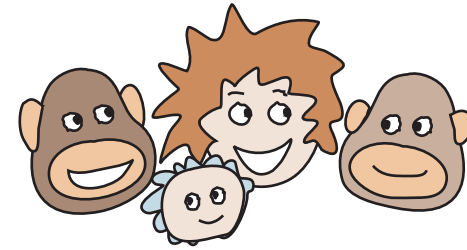


Read this page, and then tell me how many syllables are in each big, red word. (Then do the same for the next three pages.)



I am **trying** to remember,
but I **think** that I **forgot**.
It was **very important** –
it **truly meant** a lot.
How could it **happen**?
Why is it **happening** to me?
I think that my **memory**
is just a memory.

Answers: remember=3, think=1 forgot=2, very=2, important=3, truly=2, meant=1, happen=2, happening=3, memory=3.



I am **only eleven**,
but I am **very grown up**.
And **after** I am **twelve**,
I will **leave** my home, but...
I will bring with me my **mother**,
and my **baby brother** too.
Together we will live
with the **monkeys** at the zoo.

Answers: only=2, eleven=3, quite=1, grown=1, after=2, twelve=1, leave=1, mother=2, baby=2, brother=2, together=3, monkeys=2.



Before I am **able**
to climb **upon** the **table**,
I must climb **upon** the chair.
But **before** I can do that
I have to move the **seven** cats
that have climbed **into** my hair.

Answers: before=2, able=2, upon=2, seven=2, into=2.



Every night **before** I fall **asleep**,
I count **seven hundred** sheep.
They dance **upon** my bed
before they jump **into** my head,
but I **never, ever** feel their feet.

Answers: before=2, asleep=2, seven=2, hundred=2, upon=2,
into=2, never=2, ever=2.

Silly Bull Rule 3

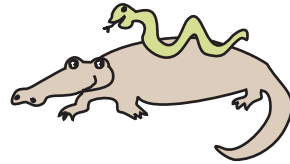


Not every vowel makes a sound. Silent vowels and “walking vowels” don’t count when you’re counting syllables. (“When two vowels are walking, only one vowel does the talking.”)



snake

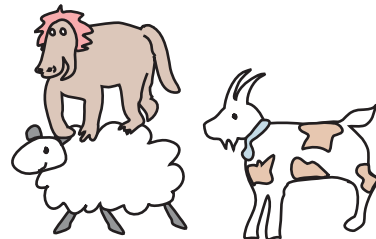
cro-co-dile



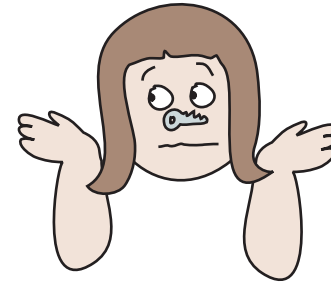
sheep

ba-boon

goat



The silent vowels on this page are colored orange. Read the page, and then count how many orange silent vowels are here.



Someone gave me **something**,
and he **already** wants it back.

I must have put it **somewhere** –
surely I remember that? **Again**

and **again**, I checked my clothes;

I even looked **between** my toes.

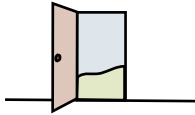
I will be more **careful** next time –

I will put it on my nose.

Silly Bull Rule 4



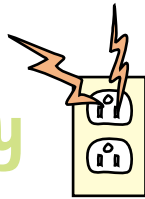
Sometimes a vowel makes a sound all by itself, separate from other letters. When this happens, the vowel is a syllable all by itself.



o-pen

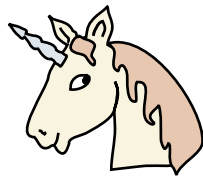


e-lec-tric-**i**-ty



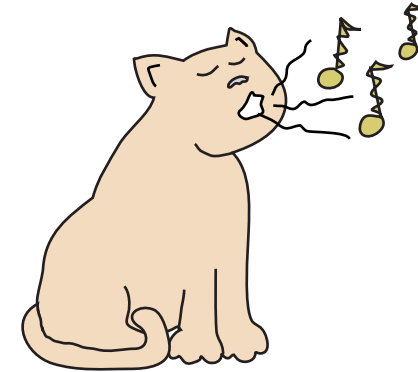
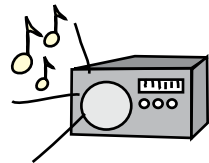
a-pron

u-ni-corn



i-de-a

ra-di-o



We went **over** to the **radio**

to listen to some music.

But the **electric** cord was gone,
so we couldn't really use it.

My cat started to sing,

but as soon as her mouth was **open**,

I had to close my ears,

so my brain would not be broken.

Silly Bull Rule 5



Many times, when two vowels are right next to each other, one of the vowels is silent. But sometimes, two vowels next to each other **both** make a sound, and when this happens, they count as separate syllables.

lion



li-on



hyena



hy-e-na

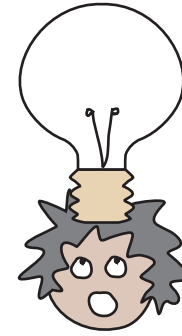
boa



bo-a



Read this page, and then tell me how many syllables are in each big, red word.



I had a big **idea**,

bigger than my head.

A huge **idea**

like a **giant** goose egg.

It was so big that

the **piano** looked quite small.

How do big **ideas**

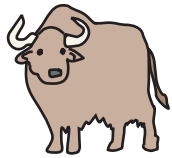
fit inside my head at all?

Answers: idea=3, giant=2, piano=3, ideas=3.

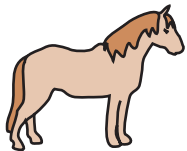
Silly Bull Rule 6



Remember, the letter “y” is sometimes a vowel and sometimes isn’t. Show me which “y” is a consonant and which is a vowel.



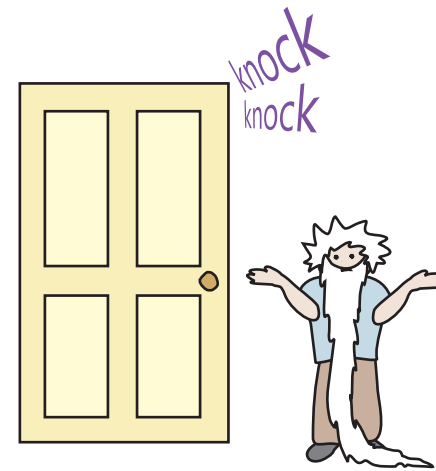
yak



pony



hyena



When **anyone** knocks
on **my yellow** door,
I ask them, “Who are **you**?”
If **they** take a **year** to answer,
I know **they** are from the zoo.
Why do animals come here?
It does seem rather dumb.
It’s happened so **very many** times,
that I am no longer **young**.

Silly Bull Rule 7



Sometimes, two words join together to make a longer word. Usually, the two words are pretty easy to spot. When figuring out the syllables in this kind of word, always divide **BETWEEN** the two words. Read the right and wrong words out loud, and you'll see what I mean.



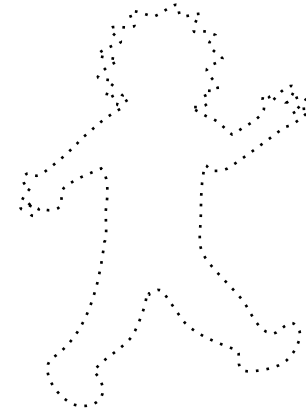
how-ev-er
some-times
eye-ball
with-out
an-other

(Right)



ho-wev-er
so-met-imes
e-yeb-all
wit-ho-ut
a-not-her

(Wrong)



I went for a walk **without myself**.
My **footprints** were **nothing**,
my **eyeballs** were gone,
no lips whistled **something**
that wasn't a song.
Nobody told me
the way to **nowhere** –
and **everyone** knows
I never got there.

Silly Bull Rule 8



When two or more consonants sit between two vowel sounds in a word, the word is usually divided between the FIRST two consonants.



funny
under
children
complete



fun-ny
un-der
chil-dren
com-plete



I was **almost hungry**,
it was **nearly** time to eat,
when my **tummy** said, "**Hurry!**"
to my **funny, yellow** feet.
I went **running** to the **market**
where I bought a lot of food.
I **started** to eat,
but my **tummy** said, "Ewww!"



The smell of a **hundred chipmunks** is **better** than a **hundred skunks**.

But the **problem** with a **hundred chipmunks** is their **manners** when they're eating lunch. They **gobble** it up and stuff it in their cheeks, which get so full they can **hardly** spit or speak.

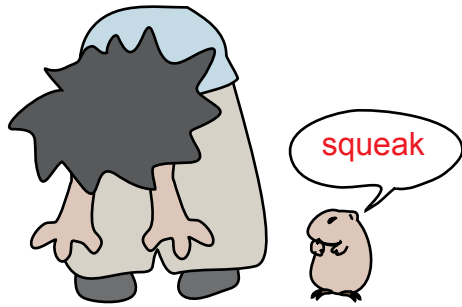
Silly Bull Rule 9



But some consonants shouldn't be separated, or it could be confusing to read the words. Read the "right" and "wrong" words out loud, and you'll see what I mean.

thinking **thin-king**
think-ing


candies **can-dies**
cand-ies



Ben Ding was **bending**

down to touch his toes.

He was **thanking** his knees

for not **banging** his nose.

His **sister** said, "**Splendid!**"

His **hamster** said, "Squeak!"

And if you are **wondering**,

hamsters can't speak.

Silly Bull Rule 10



And some consonants should never, EVER be separated – like when two consonants are working together to make a “ch” or “sh” or “th” sound. Read the “right” and the “wrong” words out loud so you can see what I mean.

father

fat-her 

fa-ther 

nothing

not-hing 

no-thing 

teaches

teac-hes 

teach-es 

fisherman

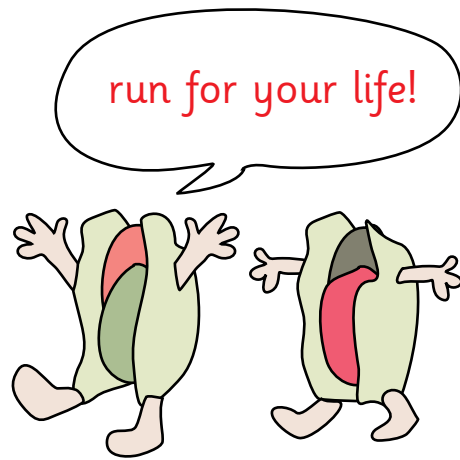
fis-her-man 

fish-er-man 

together

to-get-her 

to-geth-er 



I made two **sandwiches**
without any bread.
 They were messy and **squishy**,
 and the butter wouldn't spread.
 I was **washing** the **dishes**
 and **searching** for a knife,
 when they ran away **together**
 saying, "Run for your life!"



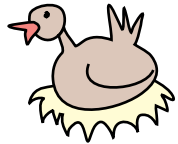
I picked two **peaches**
 for my **brother**, see?
 But I would **rather** give him
 one and keep the **other** for me.
 This one is **fresher**, but I
 think it has a worm.
 Eww! It's **touching** my hand –
 now I've got **another** germ!

Silly Bull Rule 11



The “ck” letter combination is never divided because they make only one sound (kuh) – if they were divided, you would have to make TWO “kuk” sounds. Read the following right and wrong words, and you’ll see what I mean.

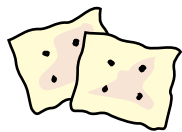
chicken



chic-ken 

chick-en 

crackers



crac-kers 

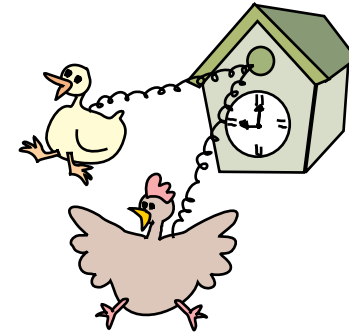
crack-ers 

jacket



jac-ket 

jacket 



I thought I bought a **cuckoo clock** – that’s what they told me at the shop.

I ran home **quickly** and **stuck** it on the wall –

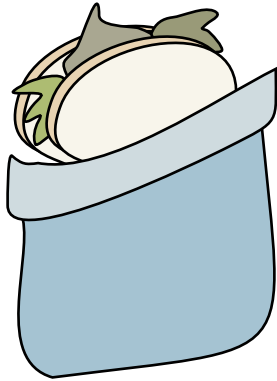
I was **lucky** that it did not fall.

I thought it was cool,

but no, it was **yucky**

when out came a **chicken** and a rubber **ducky**.

Silly Bull Rule 12



I put my lunch in the
pocket of my **jacket**.
 Then I forgot to eat the **packet**.
 Two months later,
 when the weather got cold,
 my **knuckles** found that
 lunch so old – **icky, sticky**
 and very, very **sickly**.

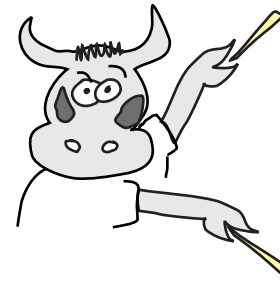


Remember that we put -ed at the end of some words? And remember that you can't really hear the "e" – just the "d"?

Well because there isn't any vowel SOUND, the "-ed" that is added to the end of words does NOT make a syllable of its own.

danced

dance-ed ~~X~~



danc'd ✓



hugged

hug-ged ~~X~~



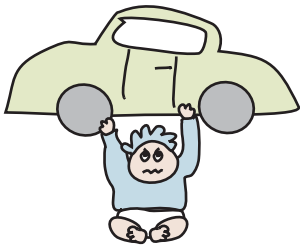
hug'd ✓



Silly Bull Rule 13



But when a word ends in a “t” or a “d”, you **can** hear the “-ed” ending – so it **is** a separate syllable.



When I was a baby,
I **lifted** the car.

lift-ed 

started

start-ed 

needed

need-ed 



Read this page and the next, and then show me which “ed” endings are a separate syllable, and which ones are not.



I **wanted** to knit a sock.
So I **knitted** one for you.
It had a little hole,
but I **mended** it with glue.
Then I **tried** to put the sock on;
I **pushed** and **pulled** a lot.
When I finally got the sock on,
I could not pull it off.

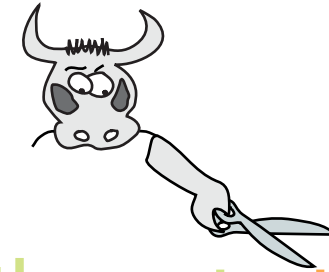
Silly Bull Rule 14



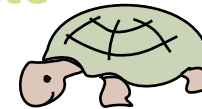
I **wanted** to be scary;
 I **needed** to scare someone.
 So I **pretended** to be a monster –
 I **hoped** to have some fun.
 I **waited** by a tree
 and **jumped** out at my cat.
 My cat just **yawned** and fell asleep,
 and that was the end of that.



When a word ends in “le”, the consonant right before the “le” often joins together with the “-le” to make the last syllable in a word.



turtle tur-tle

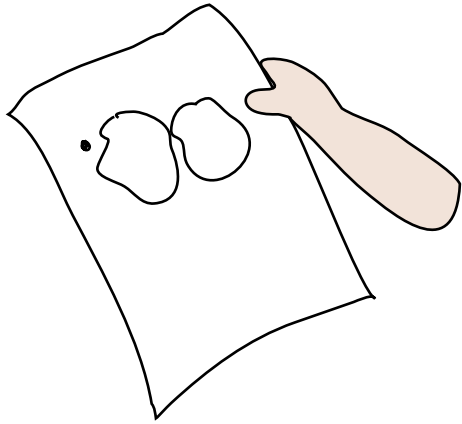


bubble bub-ble

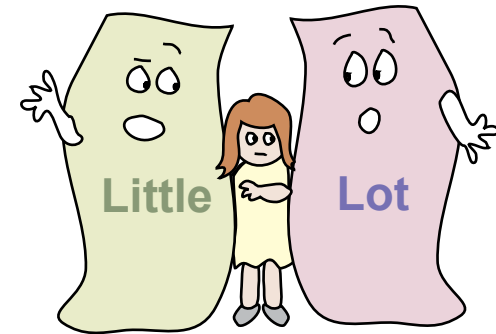


people peo-ple





To draw a **poodle**,
 draw two **circles** and a dot.
 Then turn it upside down
 and stare at it a LOT.
 It could be a **bicycle**,
 or maybe a **turtle's** eyes.
 But we know it's a **poodle**...
 surprise, surprise, surprise.

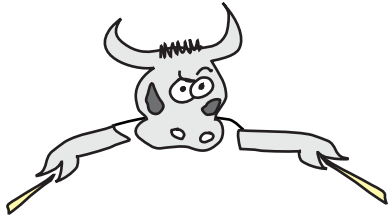


I stood in the **middle**
 between a **Little** and a Lot.
 I couldn't move a **muscle** –
 couldn't **giggle**, couldn't cough.
 I tried to **wiggle** out,
 but I only **wiggled** in.
 I wish that **Little** and a Lot
 were a **little** more thin.

Silly Bull Rule 15



When a word ends in “al” or “el”, it doesn’t really sound much different than if a word ends in “-le”.



animal
an-i-mal

camel
cam-el

usual
us-u-al

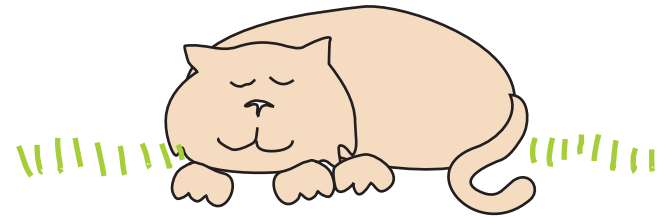
towel
tow-el

metal
met-al

tunnel
tun-nel

special
spe-cial

spe-shal



My cat is not a **normal** cat

My cat is very **special**.

My cat is so **unusual**

that she should get a **medal**.

What makes my cat so **special**?

I’m glad that you have asked.

My **magical** cat can sit for hours
doing nothing in the grass.

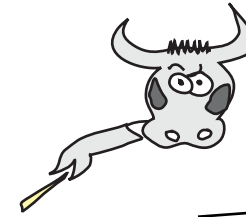
Silly Bull Rule 16



It is a **simple puzzle** –
 not difficult at all.
 But I am just an **animal**
 and my brain is **unusually** small.
 So, hold on a minute,
 while I **dial** the telephone –
 I think I left my brain
 on the **table** back at home.



If a two-syllable word has ONE consonant in the middle, the first vowel sound is usually long..



paper



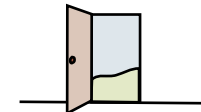
even



tiny



open



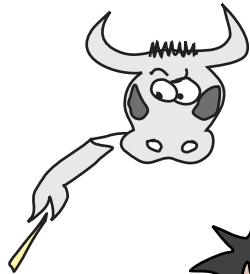
music



Silly Bull Rule 17



And if a word has TWO or more consonants in the middle, the first vowel sound is usually short.



happy



yellow



little



bottle

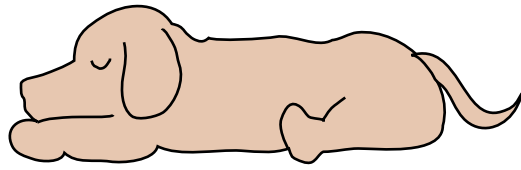


funny



I am **writing** a letter
on a piece of **yellow** paper.
I will send it to **myself**,
so that I can read it **later**.
To make my **letter better**,
I **began** with "Dear Me" –
it sounds a **little silly** –
but it's **better** than, "Poor Me!"

WOOF
WOOF
woof



I **suppose** I can be **silent**
when the **baby** is sleeping,
but **today** it is a **problem**
because I am keeping
my **doggy** in my room –
just **listen** to her **yapping**.
My dog will not be quiet,
even when she is **napping**.

Silly Bull Rule 18



But there are lots and lots of words that break these two rules about long and short vowel sounds. If you don't know a word, try and say it with a short vowel and then a long vowel, and see which way makes sense.



seven 7

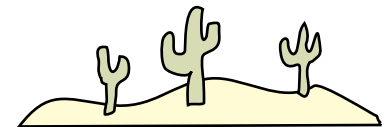
closet

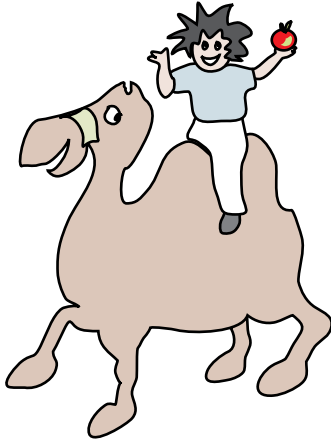


travel



desert





If I lived in the **desert**,
 I would want to have a **camel**,
 so the **camel** and I
 could **travel, travel, travel**
 to the market for milk
 and perhaps a little apple –
 and that is why
 I need to have a **camel**.



Me, my **body** and I
 like to swim in the **river**,
 but we **never, ever, ever**
 swim without our **liver**.
 Our **liver** stays inside
 with our tummy and our bones –
 and we would **never, ever, ever**
 leave our **liver** home alone



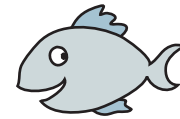
Parent/teacher note: There are several more syllable rules – for example, rules about prefixes, suffixes and hyphens – but this is not the time or the place for them. At this point, your child/student needs to practice reading and learn more about the parts of speech, tenses, etc.

The “sh” sound

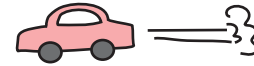


We don't have a letter for the “sh” sound, so we use a COMBINATION of letters to spell the sound.

There are about 12 different ways of spelling it, but these four ways are used the most –



fish



motion



special



permission



And how do you know if these letters are pronounced normally or pronounced “sh”? Simple – you look and see if there’s a vowel or a consonant afterwards. Try saying the “sh” sound for ALL of these words, and you’ll see what I mean.



delicious
decide

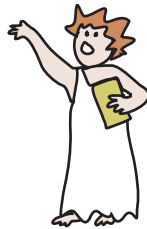
vowel comes after

consonant comes after

vowel comes after

action
acting

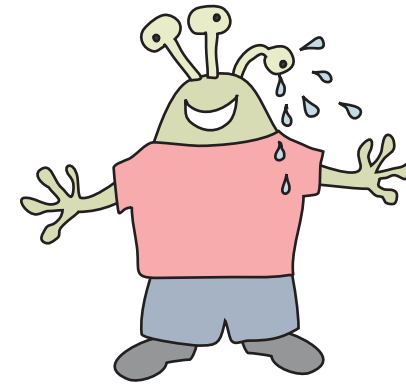
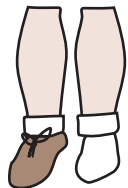
consonant comes after



vowel comes after

mission
missing

consonant comes after



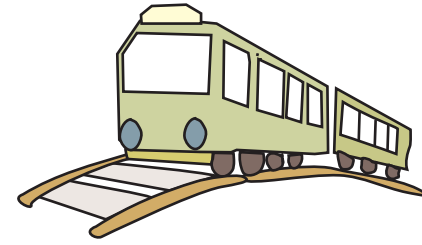
Martin is a **Martian**;
he has three **Martian** eyes –
and one **Martian** eye
always cries, cries, cries.
Martin isn’t sad,
all **Martians** are quite happy,
but **Martin’s** third eye
is a sad, little chappy.

Consonants: b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,y,z
Vowels: a, e, i, o, u and sometimes y

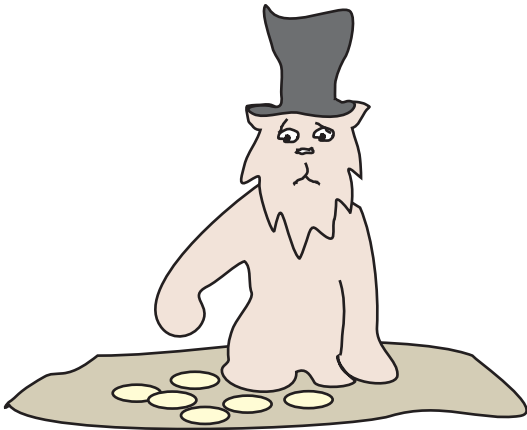
A “chappy” is English slang for a man or a boy – can also be applied to an object.



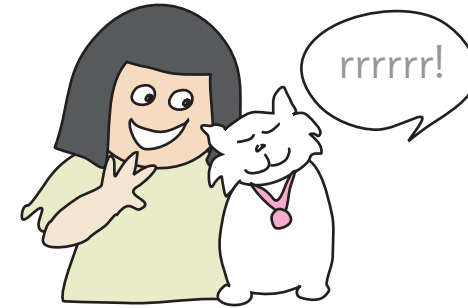
When I go out in the sun,
 I wear sun tan **lotion**.
 But the **lotion** that I wear
 gives me a bad **emotion**.
 The **lotion** is pink,
 and my skin turns blue –
 Would you have bad **emotion**
 if it happened to you?



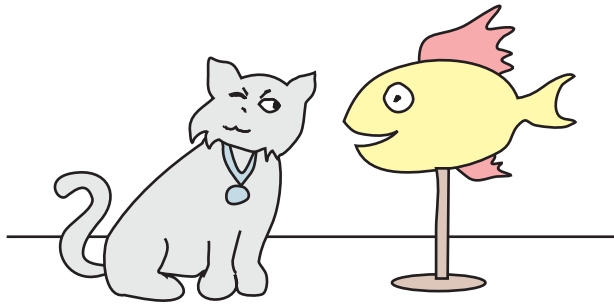
We went to the **station**
 and caught the wrong train –
 it was very, very dark
 and there was a lot of rain.
Station after **station**,
 we did not see
 the **stations** going by –
 our eyes were fast asleep.
 At the end of the line,
 we were in the wrong **station**;
 not just far from home,
 but in a totally different **nation**.



An **ancient** cat
 in an **ancient** hat
 counts his money
 on an **ancient** matt.
 One **cent**, two **cents**,
 eight, nine, ten...
 then the **ancient** cat
 starts over again.

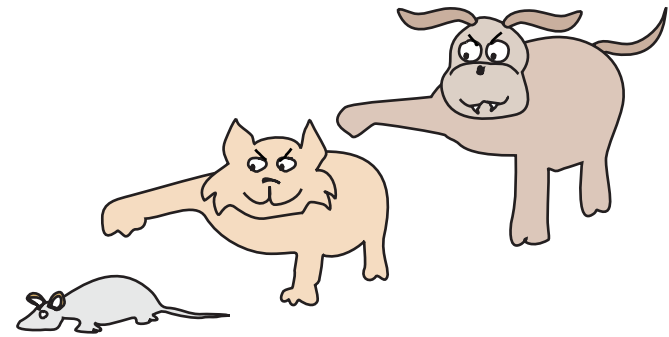


My cat is very **special**;
 well, **special** to me.
 I've had my **special** cat
 since I was two or three.
 My cat is so **special**
 that he talks **special**ly –
 I just **wish** I understood what
 he is saying to me.



“**Fish** are **delicious**,”
 said the cat from the **city**,
 “but I am **suspicious** –
 this **fish** is too pretty!
 Because just how **delicious**
 can a **fish** this **suspicious**
 be if the **fish**
 never swims or **swishes**?”

(In this use, “swish” means to move in a curving, exaggerated way.)

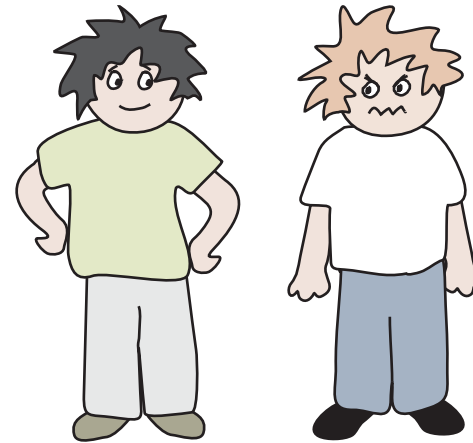


My dog is on a **mission**
 to catch the cat.
 My cat is on a **mission**
 to catch the rat.
 And I am on a **mission**
 to make them all be friends –
 but I think that my **mission**
 will never have an end.

(Skip this one if the words are too advanced)



If a **profession** is what you do for work, then my baby brother is a **professional** burp. My **profession** is patting him on the back – and then he has to take a **professional** nap.



I can see by the **expression** on your angry, angry face that I didn't have **permission** to win our silly race. Your **expression** is **confession** that you have a big **obsession** with winning, but what's wrong with being second place?



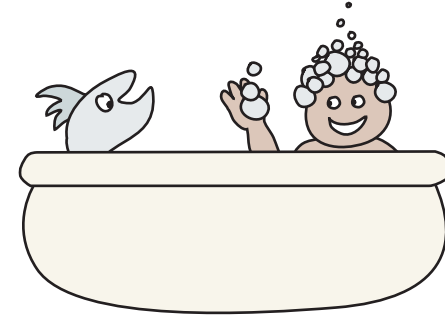
In the words “sure” and “sugar”, the letter “s” makes the “sh” sound all by itself.



I am **sure** I love **sugar**;
sugar is the best.
 I put lots of **sugar**
 on everything, yes!
 But are you **sure** that **sugar**
 on mud tastes good?
 I prefer to eat **sugar**
 on chunks of wood.



In the word “ocean”, the “c” and the “i” make the “sh” sound...

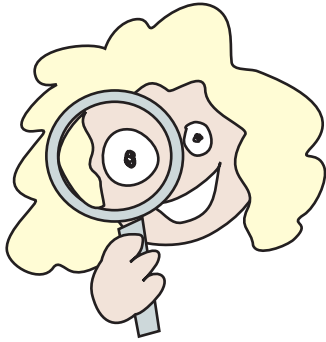


A lot of **fish**
 live in the **ocean**.
 And the waves of an **ocean**
 are always in **motion**.
 I like to have the **notion**
 that my bath tub is an **ocean**
 where the **fish** all know
 to leave my toes alone!

Note: Notion means idea.



There are some words that break this rule (like “spicier”, “science” and “society”).



I want to learn
about **science** at school.
Science is good;
science is cool.
And if I am a **scientist**
when I grow up –
I need to be good at
science and stuff.



And words that end in “-stion” (like question, suggestion, and digestion) are pronounced “queschun” instead of “ques-shun”.



I know the answer
to a lot of little **questions**.
But what is the answer
to a really big **question**?
A really big **question** –
if you don’t mind the **suggestion** –
is: why does eating mud
give me **indigestion**?

The “ch” sound



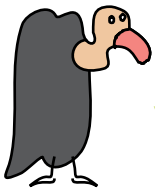
We don't have a letter for the “ch” sound, so we use a COMBINATION of letters to spell the sound.

The “ch” sound is almost always spelled with a “c” and an “h”, but some words (about 300 of them) have a “-cher” sound that is spelled “-ture”.

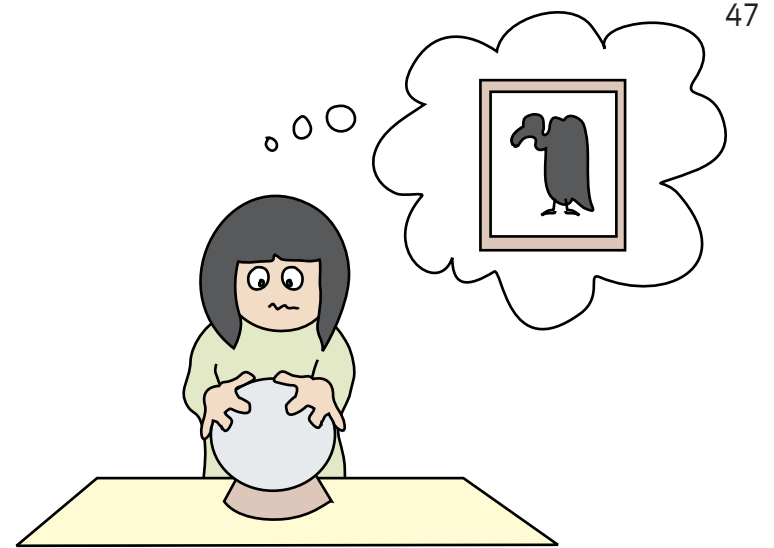
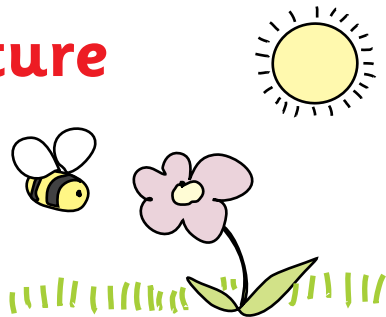
picture



vulture



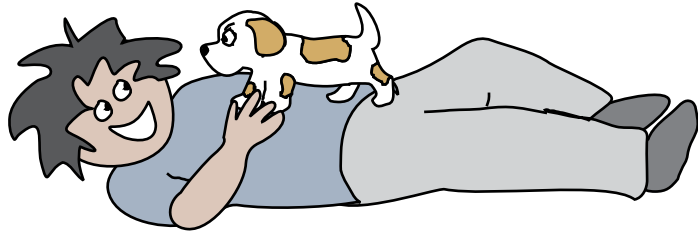
nature



I can see into the **future** –
I have a crystal ball.

And today I see a **picture**
of a **vulture** on the wall.

Now, a **vulture** is a **creature**
that I do not wish to meet,
so I need another **future**...
hmmmm – what will it be?



My dog waits behind a tree
 because he wants to **capture** me.
 What an **adventure**!
 He jumps out with a growl!
 He knocks me down
 onto the ground.
 And, yes, I let him **capture** me –
 even though he is smaller
 than little, old me.

The end

(Phew!)

Recommended reading

[Dr. Seuss](#) – ALL of his books!

[Dav Pilkey](#) – especially the Captain Underpants books (very humorous and lots of illustrations). Mr. Pilkey has written and illustrated over forty books published by Scholastic Press. Check out www.pilkey.com

[Peggy Parish](#) – the Amelia Bedelia books published by Harper Collins (about 30 books). Many illustrations and lots of word play.

[James Marshal](#) – especially his “George and Martha” books. Mr. Marshal has published more than ten funny and charming books with Houghton Mifflin.