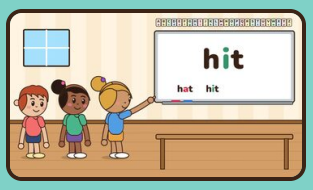
HAKILLO KIDS · TEACHER GUIDE · COMMON CORE EDITION · LANGUAGE ARTS · GRADE 1 · LESSON 1

Short Vowel Review



COMMON CORE
RF.1.3.b

VIDEO LENGTH
3:59 · Virginia SOL edition also available

WATCH THE LESSON FREE
hakillokids.org/language-arts/grade-1#L1-01

PRACTICE ONLINE
learn.hakillokids.org · videos stop for each question, scored automatically

RF.1.3.b Decode regularly spelled one-syllable words.

Materials: Letter tiles or magnetic letters, vowel key cards, whiteboards.

Students will

- Say the short sound of each vowel.
- Hear the vowel in the middle of CVC words.
- Change the vowel to make a new word (hat, hit, hot, hut).
- Tell whether a new word is a real word.

Key words

vowel	A, E, I, O, U
short vowel	a as in apple, e as in egg, i as in igloo, o as in octopus, u as in umbrella
CVC word	consonant-vowel-consonant, like cat
vowel switch	change only the vowel to make a new word

Before the video 2 minutes

Build hat with tiles. Ask: “If I swap only the a, what other words can we make?”

What happens in the video

0:00	Welcome to first grade and today's goal: short vowels
0:22	The five short vowel sounds
0:39	One vowel in the middle: cat, web, pig, fox, bug
0:54	Vowel switch: hat, hit, hot, hut
1:11	Vowel switch: bag, beg, big, bug
1:27	Vowel switch: pan, pen, pin (pon isn't a word)
1:45	Switch the vowel, make a new word
1:55	Spot the mistake: bug and bag have different vowels
2:16	Your turn! Students answer during each pause (see below)
3:38	Recap and goodbye

Spot the mistake at 1:55

> **Sam:** Bug and bag have the same vowel sound!
> **Ivy:** Hmm... listen to the middle. Bug. Bag. Are they the same?
> **Mia:** Bug has the U sound, like umbrella. Bag has the A sound, like apple. They are different!
> **Sam:** Oops! Bug and bag have different vowels!

- Ask: “Say bug, then bag. What sound is in the middle of each?” (u, a.)
- Build both with tiles and point to the vowel.
- Switch the vowel back and forth while reading.

Your-turn pauses students answer out loud, then the characters give the answer

TIME	QUESTION	ANSWER IN THE VIDEO
2:17	What vowel sound is in the middle of jam?	A! Jam has the A sound, like apple.
2:31	What vowel sound is in the middle of sock?	O! Sock has the O sound, like octopus.
2:45	Change the U in cup to an A. What word do you get?	Cap! Cup becomes cap.
2:58	What vowel sound is in the middle of nest?	E! Nest has the E sound, like egg.
3:12	Change the I in pig to an E. What word do you get?	Peg! Pig becomes peg.
3:25	What vowel sound is in the middle of fish?	I! Fish has the I sound, like igloo.

Tip: pause the video a little longer on any question your class finds hard, and ask a student to explain how they know.

After the video: talk about it

1. Why must we listen carefully to the middle of a word?
2. Make a vowel switch chain starting with pit.
3. Which vowel sound is hardest for you?

Go further

Vowel switch race: partners take turns changing one vowel to make a new real word and record the chain.

Answer key for the practice page

1. a
2. o
3. cap
4. peg
5. bit
6. hat, hit, hot, hut

© 2026 Hakillo Kids · Free to copy for classroom and home use · hakillokids.org
Common Core State Standards © Copyright 2010. National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and Council of Chief State School Officers. All rights reserved.

HAKILLO KIDS · LANGUAGE ARTS · GRADE 1 · LESSON 1 · PRACTICE

Short Vowel Review

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. **What vowel sound is in jam?**

   Answer: _____

2. **What vowel sound is in sock?**

   Answer: _____

3. **Change the u in cup to a. New word?**

   Answer: _____

4. **Change the i in pig to e. New word?**

   Answer: _____

5. **Change the a in bat to i. New word?**

   Answer: _____

6. **Write a vowel switch chain: h_t (hat, hit, hot, hut). Draw one.**

   Answer: _____

Watch the lesson free: hakillokids.org/language-arts/grade-1#L1-01
Practice online with Mia, Sam & Ivy: **learn.hakillokids.org**