

# Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

**Mouse Paint**  
By: Ellen Stoll Walsh  
Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: H

**Word Work**

**Instructional Focus:**  
Syllables

**Background:**  
Students will be able to identify words in the book that match the instructional focus.

**Examples:**

even	hum
jump	wint
open	sun
bagel	fuzz
final	pub

**Materials and Preparation:**

- A Copy of *Mouse Paint*
- Chart Paper
- Colored Markers
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Sample Anchor Chart
- Counting the Syllables Game Board (1 set per pair)
- Optional - Word

**Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work**

**Introduce Syllables**

- Review with students that syllables are the number of parts that a word can be divided into. You might say "We can think of syllables as the number of beats in a word. When you hear a different part, such as in the word below, you can hear the first and second part".
- Show students words from the anchor chart, and have them draw out the parts of the words. Draw circles under the word to identify each part of the word. Have students identify whether it is a one or two-syllable word, and write it in the appropriate column.
- Continue with anchor chart words, and invite children to add their own words to count out.
- Optional: Differentiate instruction by simplifying word choices, or having students come up with words that have the largest number of syllables.
- Teacher Note: Syllable cards should be cut out prior to start of game. They will be placed in the "syllable card" stack.

**Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading**

**Syllables in the Text**

- Tell the students that the book they will be reading today has a lot of words with 1 and 2 syllables.
- Show them **page of Mouse Paint**. Tell students to listen carefully and look at the words while you read. Ask the students to put a thumb up when they see or hear a 2 syllable word.
- Identify the 2 syllable word on page (paper) on page 1.
- Read the text aloud to the class stepping from time to time to look for words with 1 or 2 syllables on the page.

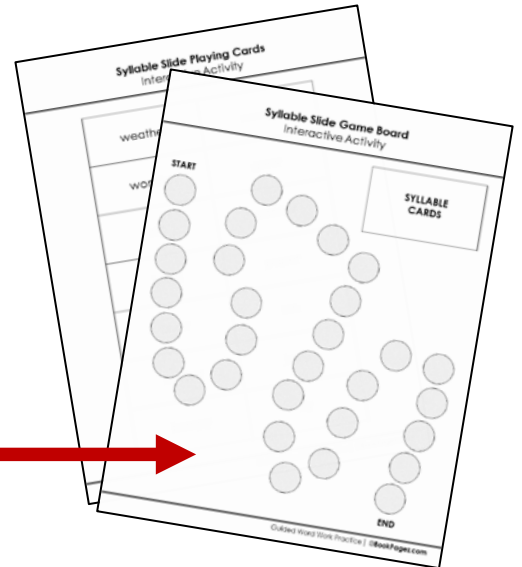
**Example words in the text that are examples of 1 and 2 syllable words:**

1 Syllable Words	2 Syllable Words
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>once</li> <li>three</li> <li>mine</li> <li>paint</li> <li>red</li> <li>blue</li> <li>fun</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper</li> <li>couldn't</li> <li>catnip</li> <li>yellow</li> <li>puddle</li> <li>onto</li> <li>until</li> <li>sticky</li> </ul>

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus



Interactive Activities

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**Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice**

**Interactive Exploration**

- Divide students into pairs.
- Give each pair of students a syllable slide game board, a stack of game cards, and a game piece to move throughout the board.
- Students take a card from the top of a shuffled deck and count the number of syllables and move that number of spots on the board.
- Students go back and forth, moving the number of spots necessary to represent the syllables. The person that gets to the end first is the winner.

**Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice**

**Practice Page**

- Give each student a copy of **Counting the Syllables: Word Work**.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

**Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work**

**Group Discussion**

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their word work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

**Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)**

**Extension Activity**

- Ask students to identify syllable counts in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the added sticky notes with the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the **Word Detective worksheet**.

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Independent Practice Page

**Counting the Syllables**  
Word Work Practice Page

**Directions:** For each of the words below, put an "x" in the box that shows the correct number of syllables.

Word	1 Syllable	2 Syllables	3 Syllables
paint			
drink			
runner			
chocolate			
summer			
pen			
water			
telephone			
write			

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Extension Activity

**Word Detective: Syllables Count**  
Extension Activity

**Directions:**  
Be a word detective!  
Be on the lookout for the count of syllables in words while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

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