

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Short Vowel Sounds

Background:
A single vowel (a, e, i, o, u) in the middle of a syllable is usually short.

Examples:

Short a	That	Brat	Chat	flat
Short e	Fret	Yet		
Short i	Quit	Spit		
Short o	Not	Spot		
Short u	Shut	Strut		

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *Rocks and Minerals*
- Chart Paper
- Marker
- Sticky Notes
- Short Vowel Sound Cards
- Short Vowel Sounds Practice Page
- Optional - Word Detective

Word Work

Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Short Vowel Sounds

- Direct students' attention to the anchor chart.
- Read the rule of thumb for vowels found in the middle of syllables aloud to the class.
- Read the words in the chart together as a class. Clap each syllable as you read the words.
- Ask students to identify the vowel in the middle of the syllable. Circle the vowels so they stand out.
- Invite students to turn and talk to a partner to brainstorm more examples of short vowel sounds in the middle of syllables. Add them to the chart as you discuss.

Sample Anchor Chart

When a vowel stands alone in the middle of a syllable, the vowel sound is usually short.

A	E	I	O	U
Scan	Red	Grin	Hag	Shut
Cabin	Met	Panic	Rad	Butter

Examples of Short Vowel Sounds Found in the Text:

- rocks
- with
- just
- magma
- minerals
- tectonic
- happen
- ton
- pick
- out
- element
- island
- black
- lots
- can
- wind
- this
- past
- fossils
- red
- hands
- not
- bottom
- stab
- factory
- living

Short Vowel Sounds in the Text

- Explain to students that the book they are reading today will have many examples of these short vowel sounds.
- Show students page 4 of *Rocks and Minerals*. Point out the words that follow the pattern in the first sentence. These include walk and around.
- Tell the students to listen carefully for short vowel sounds and look at the page while you read. Ask students to give a thumbs up when they hear one of these words. As students respond, you can add the words to the chart. The words that follow the rule include: under, black, fan, brown, pink, red, sparkle, different, and colors.
- Pass out one sticky note to each student. Explain that they are going to listen as you read the rest of the chapter titled *Rocks and Minerals* and when they hear or see a short vowel sound in the middle of a syllable, they should write the example on the sticky note and identify which short vowel sound the syllable contains.
- After reading the chapter, have students share their examples with the class. Discuss the examples they heard and saw and add the short vowel examples to the anchor chart.

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

Word Work

Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Explain to students that they are now going to practice what they've learned by playing a short vowel sound sorting game.
- Divide students into pairs.
- Give each pair a set of **Short Vowel Sound Cards** and a **Sorting Page**.
- Tell the students to shuffle their cards and form a deck of cards.
- Instruct students to take turns drawing a card from the stack and placing it in the correct stack based on the short vowel sound.
- Students can race to see who can sort them the fastest.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of the word work **Short Vowel Sounds Practice Page**.
- Read through the directions with the class and allow students to complete the page individually.
- Monitor students while they work or conference with students to assess mastery of this word pattern.

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 be on the lookout for **short vowel sounds** 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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Interactive Activity

Sorting Page

Interactive Activity

A	E
I	
O	U






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Independent Practice Page






Short Vowel Sounds

Word Work Practice Page

Directions: Draw a line to match the picture to the correct vowel sound found in the middle of the syllable.

	A
	E
	I
	O
	U

Directions: Complete the spelling of the words in the chart below by providing the vowel.

Picture Clue	Beginning Sound	Vowel Sound	Ending Sound
	R		T
	DR		M
	ST		CK
	R		CK
	B		D

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Extension Activity

Word Detective: Short Vowel Sounds

Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for **short vowel sounds** 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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