

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

Word Work
By: Tomie dePaola
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: M

Instructional Focus:
Short Vowel

Background:
A single vowel in the middle of a syllable is usually short.

Examples:

Short A	Short E	Short I
hot	bed	him
back	yes	visit
that	well	kiss
has	want	tid

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *Strega Nona* by Tomie dePaola
- Chart Paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Sample Anchor Chart
- Missing Vowel Mat (1 copy per student)
- Missing Vowel Word Cards (1 copy per student)
- Draw the Word Practice Page (1 per student)
- Optional - Fill in the Blank Vowel Page (1 per student)
- Optional - Word Detective (1 per student)

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Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Short Vowel

- Explain that a single vowel in the middle of a syllable is usually short.
- Write 5 headings on the chart paper: "Short a", "Short e", "Short i", "Short o", "Short u".
- Write the word "cat" under the "Short o" heading. Ask children what vowel is in the middle of the syllable. Explain that the "o" makes the short "o" sound because it is a single vowel in the middle of a syllable. Say the word "cat" and ask children to repeat the word. Follow the same steps with bed, mat and made.
- Write the word "red" under the "Short e" heading. Ask children what vowel is in the middle of the syllable. Explain that the "e" makes the short "e" sound because it is a single vowel in the middle of a syllable. Say the word "red" and ask children to repeat the word. Follow the same steps with bent, seven and kettle.
- Write the word "at" under the "Short i" heading. Ask children what vowel is in the middle of the syllable. Explain that the letter "i" makes the short "i" sound because it is a single vowel in the middle of a syllable. Say the word "at" and ask children to repeat the word. Follow the same steps with middle, misty and wig.
- Write the word "frog" under the "Short o" heading. Ask children what vowel is in the middle of the syllable. Explain that the letter "o" makes a short "o" sound because it is a single vowel in the middle of a syllable. Say the word "frog" and ask children to repeat the word. Follow the same steps with sock, job and rot.
- Write the word "sun" under the "Short u" heading. Ask children what vowel is in the middle of the syllable. Explain that the letter "u" makes the short "u" sound because it is a single vowel in the middle of a syllable. Say the word "sun" and ask children to repeat the word. Follow the same steps with tub, bus and cup.

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Short Vowel in the Text

- Tell the children you are going to read a page from the book *"Strega Nona"* by Tomie dePaola. While you read, they are to listen for words with a short vowel sound.
- Instruct children to raise their hand if they hear a word that has a short vowel sound.
- Read page 5. Exaggerate words with a short vowel sound.
- Add the words to the chart paper under the corresponding headings.

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

Fill in the Blank Vowel Page
Extend Engagement Activity

Directions:
Fill in the blanks with an a, e, i, o, or u.

b _ d

d _ sh

m _ gic

st _ p

b _ bbles

Name: _____ Extend Engagement Activity | ©BookPages.com

Interactive Activities

Missing Vowel Mat
Interactive Activity

short a

short e

short i

short o

short u

Guided Word Work Practice | ©BookPages.com

Independent Practice Page

Draw the Word
Word Work Practice Page

Read each word and illustrate it in the middle of the pot.

milk

shed

bat

run

rock

Name: _____ Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPages.com

Extension Activity

Word Detective: Short Vowel
Extension Activity

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

Words	Book Title	Page

Name: _____ Word Work Extension Activity | ©BookPages.com

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Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading (continued)

Short Vowel in the Text

- The following words on page 5 have short vowel sounds: want, big, did, hit, strega, met, with, husbands, had, new, shed, had.

Some Examples of Short Vowels in the Text:

• ate	• but	• get	• held
• attention	• compliment	• got	• feelings
• back	• convert	• grab	• film
• bad	• did	• had	• hot
• bed	• dishes	• happened	• hungry
• big	• fetch	• has	• husbands
• bubble	• fill	• have	• jumped

Interactive Exploration

- Pass out the **Missing Vowel Mat** and the **Missing Vowel Word Cards**.
- Ask children to cut out the word cards.
- Tell students to pick a card, read the word, and decide what vowel is missing.
- Place the word on the pot that has the missing vowel listed at the top.
- For example, "l_nny" would be placed in the "Short u" pot.
- Some words may be placed in more than 1 pot. Children can decide what pot to place the word.
- For example, the word "c_t" could be placed in the "a", "u", or "o" pot.

Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each child a **Draw the Word Practice Page**.
- Have children read the word on the top of each pot.
- Instruct children to illustrate the word in the middle of the pot.

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