

# USING SYLLABLES TO HELP WITH SPELLING

A **syllable** is a beat. Every word has at least one syllable.

## Single syllable words

Every syllable has at least one vowel sound in it. Sometimes two vowels together make a single vowel sound, e.g. 'train'.

If it is not easy to count the syllables in a word, put your hand under your chin with the palm facing downwards. Say a word slowly and feel what happens to your hand. Count how many times your chin touches your hand when you say:

Cup

A | bout

An | i | mal

### 1) Closed Syllables

A closed syllable ends in a consonant and the vowel is short. Closed syllables account for 43% of all syllables. You hear the sound of the vowels, not their names (a, e, i, o, u).

#### Examples

bat ('a' sound)

leg ('e' sound)

lid ('i' sound)

hot ('o' sound)

cup ('u' sound)

Write 10 examples of **closed syllable words**. Use each sound twice.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 2) Open Syllables

Open syllables end in a long vowel sound. You hear the names of the vowels – A, E, I, O, U.

### Examples

play, ('A' sound)

flea ('E' sound)

pie ('I' sound)

no ('O' sound)

due ('U' sound)

Notice that most of the words with open syllables have more than one vowel at the end of the word.

Write 10 more examples of **open syllable words**. Use each sound twice.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## Words with more than one syllable

Breaking up words into syllables and deciding if they are open or closed can help with spelling.

### Examples

magnet

mag / net

closed / closed

moment

mo / ment

open / closed

chatter

chat / ter

closed / open

Write some words here. Split them into syllables.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____