

# Closed Syllable

The closed syllable is the most common spelling unit in English and accounts for just under 50 percent of the syllables found in written text. If your child can recognize and read a closed syllable, he/she is well on their way to becoming a proficient decoder.

## Definition

The pattern for the closed syllable is 1 vowel letter, followed by 1 or more consonants. It's called a closed syllable because the consonant "closes" in the vowel letter. A closed syllable is spelled with 1 vowel letter and is pronounced with its short sound.

Short Vowel Video Animations: [a](#) [e](#) [i](#) [o](#) [u](#)



## Step 1. Recognize the Syllable

Place several syllables in front of your child and ask them to sort them into 2 columns, closed and not closed.



## Step 2. Read the Syllable

Place one syllable in front of your child and ask him/her to:

1. Identify if it's closed or not closed (do not continue if not closed)
2. If it's closed, pronounce the vowel sound
3. Read the syllable

Repeat with several examples

<u>Examples</u>		<u>Nonexamples</u>	
chog	spex	chate	boam
dex.	wix	fabe	doim
drell.	zast	fribe	jee
fen	zog	gloam	ki
flass	blick	ibe	lote
jamp	coz	ja	na
kib	ep	joom	pime
mab	fom	ro	sate
mit	jit	sho	thabe
shob	ob	smEEP	toam
skig	omp	ta	wobe
smast	pim	zi	yaip