Apple Card
- Apple - /_/ - spelled A
- Short vowel sound (mouth open when sound is produced)
- Occurs in a syllable that ends with a consonant letter (cvc, vc): am and can had cat dance quack
- Exceptions: what, father, mamma, ancient
- When /a/ occurs in an unstressed syllable (schwa), the sound is muffled and may change: fi-nal, a-lone, so-da

Bear Card
- Bear - /b/- spelled B
- A voiced consonant
- Also occurs in consonant blends with R and L: brown, break, blink, blue
- If the blend splits up between vowels (prob-lem) the B makes the first vowel short

Cat Card
- Cat - /k/ - spelled C, K, blank-CK
- An unvoiced consonant
- This is the hard C sound and occurs before any letter except E, I, or Y: can, cop, cut, clip, crab, fact, acme, acquire
  - Exceptions: Caesar, façade, muscle, indict
- The letter K followed by E, I, or Y results in the hard C sound: kept, keep, kite, kit, shake, shaken, shaking
- _CK is used to spell the sound of K at the end of the root word, right after a short vowel. Native English words do not end in C.
  - NOTE: To scaffold this card for students, add a green Post-it to the blank line in front of the CK to indicate this spelling always follows a short vowel: pack, peck, pick, pock, block, duck, truck
  - Exceptions: Mac, Doc, trek, sac - slang or foreign words
When the occasion arises, a Post-it with the CH spelling for the sound of K may be added to the cat card. Words of Greek origin, borrowed by the Romans, contained a sound they could not pronounce. They rewrote the sound using the CH: *school, Christmas, chlorine, character, stomach*

**Duck Card**
- Duck - /d/ - spelled D, blank-ED
- A voiced consonant
- Can occur in consonant blends with R and W - DR and DW: *drink, draw, dwarf, children, laundry*
- The _ED is pronounced as a voiced /d/ sound if it follows a vowel or a voiced or nasal consonant: *closed, dined, timed, pulled*
- The _ED is pronounced as /t/ following an unvoiced consonant other than the letter T: *asked, mixed, baked*
- The _ED is pronounced as a separate syllable -ed after D and T: *added, handed, voted, pasted, completed*

**Elephant Card**
- Elephant - /e/ - spelled E
- Short vowel sound when it is within the syllable - cvc
- Short vowel sound when it begins a word and is followed by a consonant in the same syllable - *egg, ef-fort, ex-tra*
  - Exception: *pretty*
- E is also short when combined with A to form the vowel team EA -- *head, deaf, bear, heavy, breath, bread*
- The sounds of E are muffled beyond recognition in the syllables which are the most hurried and the least stressed. This happens mainly to the sounds spelled by the simple letter E: *telephone, competition, funnel, basket, confidence*
Fish Card
✓ Fish - /f/ - spelled F
✓ An unvoiced consonant
✓ May be part of a consonant blend with L and R - FL an FR: free, from, flat, friend, flower, Friday
✓ These blends seldom split up between vowels; the vowel before the blend is long - refrain, reflect
✓ When the occasion arises, a Post-it with the _FF spelling may be added to the fish card. The _FF is a letter team for the sound of F following a short vowel at the end of a syllable or word. Adding a green Post-it to the blank line in front of the FF will scaffold this spelling pattern for your students: off, staff, bluff, gruff, sheriff, fluff
✓ When the occasion arises, a Post-it with the PH spelling may be added to the fish card. This is a Greek spelling for the F sound: phone, photo, elephant, alphabet, graph
✓ When P and H belong to different syllables, they do not make the F sound (loophole, shepherd, uphill).
✓ In a very few instances, the F sound is made by the consonant team of GH (rough, tough, cough, laugh), but since there are so few of these words, it is not recommended that a post-it be added to the Fish card.

Goose Card
✓ Goose - /g/ - spelled G
✓ A voiced consonant
✓ G makes the hard G sound when it comes before any letter except E, I, or Y - game, go, glass, dogfish, fragment, signal
✓ G makes the hard sound when it has nothing that comes after it: beg, bag, dog, leg, brag
  o Exceptions: get, give, girl, begin, gaunt,
✓ G may also be joined with R and L in consonant blends. If the blend is split over syllables, the vowel before it is short. If the blend does not split, the vowel before it is long: prog-ress, pro-gram
In a very few instances, G combines with H to form the hard G sound (ghost, ghoul, spaghetti) but since there are so few of these words, it is not recommended that a post-it be added to the Goose card.

GU can also be a consonant team for the hard G sound. This occurs when the next letter is an E or an I: guess, league, guide. The GU keeps the E or I from making the G a soft G.

GU may also be a consonant blend where the G is hard and the U represents the sound of W: penguin, language, distinguish

**Horse Card**

- Horse - /h/ - spelled H - blank
- An unvoiced consonant
- In English, the H has one basic sound, the first sound in help. It makes this sound when it is the first letter in a word or syllable.
- There are some French and Latin words in which the H is silent: honor, heir, hour, honest, exhaust, vehicle
- H almost never occurs alone after a vowel in English; exceptions being oh, ah, hah, eh, uh (approximations of inarticulate grunts)
- H is the second letter in the consonant teams CH, GH, PH, RH, SH, TH, WH; teams for sounds which did not exist in the Latin language (refer to CH, SH, TH, WH cards)

**Igloo Card**

- Igloo - /i/ - spelled I
- I is short in a syllable that ends with a consonant - cvc or vc: it, is, bit, mist, print, quilt, bit-ten, pre-dic-tion
- When there are two consonants between vowels, the first vowel is almost always short: fifty, assistant, timber, missed
- Only words of foreign origin, slang terms, and the pronoun I end in the letter I: hi-fi, taxi, macaroni, alibi, fungi, timpani
- Unlike the sounds of other English vowels, the sounds of I in unstressed syllables (schwa) are fairly distinct. When the next letter is a consonant, the I remains detectably long or short,
depending on how it would sound if stressed: *i-de-a-lism, li-bra-ri-an, ta-king*. When I, before a vowel, is unstressed because it is in a suffix, it has a distinct long E sound: *hap-pi-er, va-ri-ous*

✓ **NOTE:** The kindergarten Alphafriend card is an Iguana card, not an Igloo card

**Jumping Jill Card**
✓ **Jumping Jill - */j/* - spelled J, GE, GI-blank, blank-DGE
✓ J is a voiced consonant: *job, joke, jolly, jacket, enjoy, subject, adjourn*
✓ J is never used as the last letter in a word, instead -GE or -DGE is used
✓ GE is used at the end of a word that ends with the J sound: page, huge, large, forge, plunge, bulge. The silent E makes the G soft and the vowel long, unless the GE is preceded by another consonant.
✓ In words of French origin, the GE at the end of a word is pronounced ZH: garage, mirage, lingerie
✓ GI_ is used at the beginning of a syllable when a J sound is needed: giant, ginger, magic, longitude
  o Exceptions: In some words, G is followed by an E, I, or Y and makes the hard G sound: get, girl, give, gift
✓ -DGE is a consonant team for the sound of J at the ends of root words following a short vowel: judge, edge, bridge, hedgehog, midget. The silent E is needed to make the G a soft G, and the D is needed so that the silent E does not make the first vowel long.
  o **NOTE:** It is suggested that a green Post-it be added to the blank line in front of the DGE on the Jumping Jill Card.
Kangaroo Card

- Kangaroo - /k/ - spelled K, C, blank-CK
- K is an unvoiced consonant
- In English K is used only before E, I, or Y when a hard C sound is needed: king, keep, kitten, shaky, musk, break
- sound are spelled _ck, but on the K is used if the /k/ sound follows two vowels (peak, steak) or immediately follows a consonant (milk, chalk, mink)
- Root words ending in the K sound must be spelled with K (or CK) because most of them take suffixes that begin with E, I, or Y: ask/asking, luck/lucky, speak/speaking
  - Exceptions: disc, arc, franc, zinc, talc - words of foreign origin
- In some words of French origin, QUE makes a /k/ sound: bouquet, mosquito, torque, critique. There are so few of these words in elementary texts, adding QUE to the Kangaroo card is not recommended.

Lion Card

- Lion - /l/ - spelled L, blank-LE
- L is a voiced consonant
- The sound of L is a very sophisticated sound and is especially difficult for beginning reading students, particularly when it occurs before a vowel
- The letter L is often the first letter in a syllable: let, last, tab-let, quick-ly
- The letter L is the last member in some consonant blends: black, clean, chlorine, flag, glad, plan, slip, splash
- When the L sound occurs at the end of a root word we use LL to spell it: ill, hill, still, cell, fell, mull.
- Unlike _ff and _zz the LL spelling does not always follow a short vowel. In words of Native English origin, the A may be changed to the AW sound (hall, ball, tall) and the O sound may be changed to a long O sound (roll, poll,
-LE is an English suffix that is pronounced the same way as /el/; _LE captures the consonant immediately preceding it to create a separate syllable: ta-ble, ap-ple, bub-ble

When L occurs after a long vowel sound in a single syllable word, the word often sounds like it has two syllables: pail, feel, tile, coal, rule, boil, howl, cool

The letter L can also be silent before K, M, F, or D; however, because there are so few of these words, it is not recommended that LK, LM, LF, or LD be added to their respective Sound-Spelling cards

**Mouse Card**

- Mouse - /m/ - spelled M
- M is a nasal consonant: when the mouth is held closed the voice carries the sound through the nose
- M is a consonant letter used anywhere in a word: me, map, am, came, important, prism, admit
- MB and MN are consonant teams for the sound of M: climb, comb, thumb, hymn, column. However, there are so few words with these spelling patterns it is not recommended that Post-its with MB or MN be added to the Mouse card.

**Noodle Card**

- Noodle - /n/ - spelled N, KN-blank, GN
- N is a nasal consonant used anywhere in a word: no, snow, any, noun, tradition, glen, planned
- KN is a consonant letter team for the sound of N used only at the beginning of a root word: know, knit, knight, knee, knothole, ac-know-ledge, un-known
- GN is a consonant team for the sound of N: gnaw, gnat, align, gnu, assign, design
- GN occasionally represents the sound /ny/: poignant
- GN followed by a Latin suffix breaks up and becomes a hard G: signal, malignant
**Ostrich Card**

- Ostrich - /_/ - spelled O
- O is a short vowel when it occurs within a syllable (cvc): *hot, fond, concert, hot-ter, a-dop-ted*
  - **Exceptions:** The O sound within a syllable will sometimes make the short U sound or the long O sound. Students should be taught to try a short U sound or a long O sound when the short O sound does not work: *son, ton, front, mother, company, oven, color, come, some, none, done, love, most, both, don’t*
- O is short at the beginning of a word when it is followed by a consonant: *on, off, obstacle, optional*
- In words where the O is followed by L or LL in a stressed syllable, the L goes off with the next syllable and the O is short (*jo-ll-y, ho-llow, o-live, so-lid, bi-o-logy*), except when the L is single and the suffix makes it a long O (*cor-o-llary, co-llapse, po-lar*)
- In hurried, unstressed syllables, the O sound is muffled (schwa). This happens mainly to the sounds spelled by the simple letter O: *po-ta-to, oc-cur, com-bine*
- **NOTE:** The kindergarten Alphafriend card is an Octopus card, not an Ostrich card

**Pig Card**

- Pig - /p/ - spelled P
- P is an unvoiced consonant that has one basic sound /p/: *pan, plan, up, tape, happy, crisp, price, spice*
- P may occur in consonant blends: SP, PL, SPR, SPL, PR: *spin, play, spring, splash, prod*. In all these blends, the P retains its /p/ sound
- The letter P may occur in the consonant blends PS and PN: *psychology, psychic, pneumatic, pneumonia*. In these blends, the P is silent.
Queen Card
✓ Queen - /kw/ - spelled QU-blank
✓ QU is the way we spell the Old English consonant blend
  CW: quick, quiet, quilt, squirrel, quarter
✓ The QU blend is always followed by a vowel. Since vowels are red on the Sound-Spelling cards, you could scaffold the blank line on the Queen card by placing a post-it with a red blank line over the black blank line
✓ The QU blend sometimes splits up across a syllable: liq-uid, eq-ual, tranq-uiil
✓ In some words of French origin, QU adds a silent E and becomes a /k/ sound: bouquet, mosquito, torque, critique. There are so few of these words in elementary texts, adding QUE to the Kangaroo card is not recommended.

Rooster Card
✓ Rooster - /r/ - spelled R, WR-blank
✓ The letter R is a voiced consonant for the first sound in rabbit: rain, tree, run, carry, rich
✓ It is not the /er/ sound. The lips should form a pursed (kissing) circle and a stream of air is emitted from the lips. When making the /er/ sound (Bird card), the lips are open in a square and no stream of air is emitted.
✓ The letter R is a sophisticated sound and is especially difficult for beginning reading students. Making and hearing the R sound after consonants and in consonant blends (br, fr, gr, shr, tr, spr, cr, scr) develops later than other combinations.
✓ All short vowel sounds are distorted when followed by the R sound: car, for, her, sir, fur
  o The R sound changes short A to the short O sound: car, far
  o The R sound changes short O to the long O sound: for, more
  o The R sound changes short E, I, U and the short vowel team EA to the ER sound: her, fir, fur, learn, early
✓ When the R sound follows a long vowel and some vowel pairs in a single syllable word, the word may sound like it has two syllables: fair, fear, tire, core, sour, poor, pure
✓ WR_ is a native English spelling for the sound of R at the beginning of a word only. At one time the W was pronounced. Most of these words have meanings connected to the idea of twisting: write, wrist, wrench, wrap, wrestle, wrinkle
✓ In words borrowed by the Romans from the Greeks, the initial sound of R is spelled RH: rhyme, rhythm, rhombus, rheumatism. There are too few of these words in the English language to add a Post-it to the Rooster card.

Seal Card
✓ Seal - /s/ - spelled S, CE, CI-blank
✓ The letter S is an unvoiced consonant for the first sound in seal and sail: sat, same, sight, soap, soot
  o Note: See the Zebra card for the voiced S sound
✓ The letter S is unvoiced when it is the first member of a consonant blend: scar, school, skim, slip, smoke, snake, spin, split, spring, squeak, stick, street, swing, desk, crisp, must, sphere, schizophrenic, sword
✓ The letter S is unvoiced when spelled S or SS and is between vowels: case, basin, besides, usage, house, missile, tassel
✓ The letter S is the most actively used native English suffix, forming plural nouns (cat/cats, lip/lips) and the third person singular of the present tense of verbs (run/runs, hit/hits)
✓ The letter S makes the unvoiced /s/ sound after unvoiced consonants: cuffs, looks, tops, hits, rakes, types, notes
✓ When the unvoiced S sound occurs at the end of a root word, following a short vowel, it is spelled SS. Because there are a significant number of words ending in SS, when the occasion arises, it is recommended that you add a post-it to the Seal card that has a blank with a green post-it in front of the SS spelling: mass, boss, kiss, kindness, princess
✓ A single S occurs at the ends of Latin suffixes: -ous, -as, -is, -os, -us: famous, canvas, basis, cosmos, cactus, focus
✓ Some root words end in an unvoiced SE: horse, else, nurse, goose, grease, tortoise. The silent E shows the reader that the S is not a suffix and helps distinguish between lapse/laps, diverse/divers.
  o Some words ending in SE have a voiced /z/ sound. See the Zebra card.
✓ In the consonant blend SC preceding E, I, or Y, the C has a soft sound, so the blend sounds like a plain S sound: scene, science, scent
✓ The letter C makes the soft /s/ sound when it is followed by the letters E, I, or Y: cent, cedar, city, cider, cycle, race, racy
✓ While the CE spelling for the /s/ sound can come at the end of a word (dance, mice, face, once, police), words of English origin do not end with CI. The CI spelling for the /s/ sound is always followed by another letter: pencil, deficit, appreciate, scissors
✓ A few rare words end with or contain the unvoiced S sound, but it is written as a Z: chintz, quartz, eczema, howitzer

Tiger Card
✓ Tiger - /t/ - spelled T, blank-ED
✓ The letter T is an unvoiced consonant
✓ The letter T has one basic sound, the first sound in top: time, train, last, cotton, title, little, stain, fist
✓ _ED is an inflected ending that changes a verb to the past tense; it is pronounced as a /t/ sound if it follows an unvoiced consonant: asked, backed, taped, shaped, mixed, guessed, wished
✓ The letter T is silent in -STLE, -STEN, AND -FTEN: castle, wrestle, listen, fasten, often, soften
✓ The letter T is part of the consonant blends TR, TW, and STR: tree, treat, twice, twinkle, symmetry, strawberry, strike
✓ In words of French origin, a final T is silent: bouquet, depot, debut; but when a final silent E is added the T is pronounced: route, suite, petite, elite, gazette, etiquette
**Umbrella Card**

- Umbrella - /_/ - spelled U
- The letter U is short when it is within a syllable (cvc, vc):
  - but, fun, drum, dump, subject, bundle
  - Exception: When the consonant following the short U is an R, the short U sound changes to the ER sound: fur, turn, burst, turkey, purple, hurry
- In words that begin with U, the U is short if it has a consonant after it in the same syllable: up, un-der, un-like, un-done

**Volcano Card**

- Volcano - /v/ - spelled V
- The letter V is a voiced consonant: five, vine, vote, never, oven, advocate, behavior, adventure, gave
- Unlike other consonants, the letter V is never doubled when adding a native English suffix: driving, arriving, evolving, diver
- The letter V never appears at the end of a word without a silent E: give, live, have, prove, cleave, improve.
  - In these words the silent E does not make a single vowel before it long, rather these words have either a short I or U sound (glove, love, give, native) or a long OO sound (move, prove). Vowel teams retain their sounds, however: groove, waive, heave, receive, sleeve, mauve

**Worm Card**

- Worm - /w/ - spelled W-blank
- The letter W is a voiced consonant that occurs before the vowel by itself or as the second member of a consonant blend: we, went, twelve, twist, swing, dwell
- When the /w/ sound is pronounced a stream of air is emitted from the lips.
✓ When W comes before A or O within the syllable the vowel remains short if followed by G, CK, K, X or NG:
   wag, wax, twang, polliwog, quack
   o Otherwise, when W comes before A or O within the syllable, the short A changes to the short O sound: want, wash, swap
   o Or the short O changes to a short U sound: won, wonder, woman
   o If the letter after the changed A or O is R, or R followed by a different consonant, it changes the short O sound of the A to a long O sound and it changes the short U sound of the O to the same sound as in UR: war, warm, warden, world, worse

Fox Card
✓ Fox - /ks/ - spelled blank-X
✓ X is a single letter for the consonant blend KS: ox, six, relax, next, except, oxygen
✓ The letter X follows a single vowel, the vowel is short. Scaffolding the Fox card with a green Post-it is recommended.
   o Exceptions: when X follows a vowel team, the team retains its normal sound: hoax
✓ When a word ends in the KS blend sound, the letter X keeps the word from looking like the suffix -s has been added to it: tax/tacks, lax/lacks
✓ The letter X is never doubled when adding a suffix since it already represents two consonant sounds
✓ In a few unusual words, the letter X sounds like Z: Xerox, xylophone, xerxes, xenophobia. Do not add this sound to the Zebra card.
✓ NOTE: The kindergarten Alphafriend is the Mr. X-ray card and not the Fox card.
Yo-Yo Card

✓ Yo-yo -- /y/ -- spelled Y-blank
✓ This card represents Y in its voiced consonant form at
  the beginning of a word or syllable: you, yes, yard, yellow,
  lawyer, canyon
✓ Anywhere else in a word, the letter Y is a vowel
  o Y is short within a syllable: gym, symbol
  o If the suffix begins with I, the Y remains unchanged since
    we never have two I’s in a row in English: crying, flying
  o Y is long and sounds like long I when:
    ▪ it is the only vowel in the root of the word, and is the
      very last letter of the word: by, cry, fly, deny, satisfy
    ▪ Y is stressed because of being in a root: cries, denied,
      trial
    ▪ it is the last letter in a syllable: ty-rant (unless the
      word is of Latin origin - cynic)
    ▪ it is in the spelling pattern Y_E (type, style) or the vowel
      team YE (rye, bye)
    ▪ it is stressed before another vowel:
      cy-a-nide, hy-a-cinth
  o Y is long and sounds like long E when:
    ▪ it is unstressed because of being in a suffix: candy,
      sandy, happily
    ▪ it is unstressed before another vowel: hal-cy-on
Zebra Card
✓ Zebra - /z/ - spelled Z, blank-S
✓ The letter Z is a voiced consonant. It is the same sound as the voiced S, but S is never voiced at the beginning of a word: zero, zone, zipper, fuzzy, frozen, realize
✓ The double ZZ always follows a short vowel. There are not that many words with ZZ but this could be added to the Zebra card if deemed necessary. Add a green Post-it on the blank line in front of the ZZ if you do put it on your Sound-Spelling card: buzz, fizz, puzzle, drizzle, fuzzy
   o Exceptions: quiz, whiz, fez
✓ A voiced S makes the Z sound:
   o S between vowels is often voiced: raisin, easy, nose, music
   o _S is the most active of English suffixes and is voiced after vowel sounds: days, bees, ties, shows, news, boys
   o _S makes the Z sound after voiced consonants: rubs, heads, tags, tales, hums, pans, stars, dives, leaves
   o When an E is inserted before the S and after S, Z, J, CH, SH sounds so that the added S can be heard distinctly: passes, buzzes, bridges, pages, catches, rushes
✓ The letter Z never appears alone at the end of a word. The consonant team ZE is used. These occur after a vowel team or a consonant letter: freeze, gauze, maize, bronze
   o Exception: adz
✓ In a few words preceding a long U sound or an unstressed I sound, the letter Z makes the ZH sound: azure, brazier, glazier

Sheep Card
✓ Sheep - /sh/ - spelled SH
✓ The SH sound is a Germanic sound for which ancient Latin had no single letter to represent: shape, shed, rush, mesh, fish, marsh, shrug
✓ If the S and H belong to different roots, they maintain their own sounds: grass-hopper, mis-hap, dis-honor
✓ The SH sound is made by several other spelling patterns. It is not recommended that these patterns be added to the Sheep card.
  o When the SH sound occurs before Latin suffixes it is spelled -CI, -SCI-, -SI-, -SSI-, or -TI-: spacious, conscience, tension, passion, partial, ratio, negotiate, nation, clinician, magician
  o When the SH sound occurs before an unstressed long U it is spelled -S- or -SS-: censure, tissue
✓ The SH sound is spelled with a CH in words recently borrowed from the French: chic, chef, chauffeur, parachute, mustache, chateau. As the need arises, a Post-it with the CH spelling may be added to the Sheep card.

**Thumb Card**
✓ Thumb - /th/ - spelled TH
✓ TH is a consonant team used to spell a sound of Greek origin. This team can be either voiced or unvoiced.
✓ TH is voiced:
  o At the beginning of the pointing words: the, that, these, there, then, they, them, thy
  o Between vowels in native English words: mother, feather, either, clothes, bathe, loathe, teething, mouthing
✓ TH is unvoiced:
  o At the beginning of nouns, verbs, and adjectives: thief, thumb, thank, thin, thump, thing
  o When it is the first member of the consonant blend THR: through, three, thrifty, thread
  o At the end of a word: path, death, health, moth, north, south
  o In words of Latin origin the unvoiced TH can occur in any position in a word: therapy, thorax, ethics, sympathy, myth
**Whale Card**

- Whale - /hw/ - spelled WH-blank
- This is an unvoiced consonant team that appears only at the beginning of words: when, where, which, why, wheel, whip, whine, whisper
- When the /hw/ sound is produced, no stream of air is emitted from the mouth
- In some regions, the WH sound is indistinguishable from the W sound, except by holding your fingers up in front of your mouth as you say the words. WH words produce a puff of air when spoken; W words do not.
- Before a long O or OO sounds, WH sounds like H: who, whom, whose, whole, whooping

**Chick Card**

- Chick - /ch/ - spelled CH, blank-TCH
- The CH sound in the word chick did not occur in the Latin language so CH was used to spell this English sound: chair, check, chill, chop, chunk, peach, coach, urchin, merchant
  - Exception: In the word yacht, the CH is silent
- TCH is a consonant team for the sound of CH when it occurs immediately after a short vowel sound in a root word: catch, etch, ditch, notch, clutch
  - Words with TCH are words that can take the English suffixes -ed, -ing, -er, -es, -y, -en: richer, catcher, etching, ditches, matched
  - Exceptions: some words and syllables have the CH sound after a short vowel but are not spelled with TCH: which, much, such, bachelor, detach, attach, duchess
Acorn Card

✓ Acorn - /_/ - spelled A, A-consonant-silent E, AI, blank-AY
✓ The letter A is long and says its name when it is the last letter in a syllable: ba-by, ta-ble, la-ter, a-corn, ba-king, cra-dle, fa-tal, va-ca-tion
  - When the long A is the last letter in an unstressed syllable, the long A sound is somewhat muffled, sounding more like a short U sound: away, across, about, around, along, dependable, supremacy
  - Exceptions: water, any, many, papa
✓ A is long in the spelling pattern A-consonant-E: bake, cane, be-have, se-date, con-gre-gate
  - This pattern also applies when the consonant space is filled with the consonant teams NG or ST: change, strange, angel, paste, taste, hasten
✓ AI is a vowel team for the long A sound within a root word: mail, tail, pain, faint, claim, praise, faith
  - When AI occurs in an unstressed syllable, it is often muffled and sounds more like a short U sound: mountain, bargain, captain, curtain, portrait, certain
✓ AY is a vowel team for the long A sound at the end of a word or syllable: pay, day, clay, mayor, prayer, birthday, mayhem

Ice Cream Card

✓ Ice Cream - /_/ - spelled I, I-consonant-silent E, IE, IGH, blank-Y
✓ The letter I is long when it is the last letter in a syllable: I, bi-ting, i-de-a, de-ci-ded, twi-light, ri-ot, va-ri-e-ty, bi-o-lo-gy
✓ The I is long in the spelling pattern I consonant E: bite, five, white, guide, de-cide, spe-cia-lize
  - Exceptions: Words that have I-consonant-E in an unstressed syllable often have a short I sound: justice, native, motive, adjective
✓ IE is long when it is at the end of a root word: pie, tie, lie
✓ IE is long when the Y of a root word is changed to add a suffix: flies, cried, replies, denied, satisfied
✓ IGH is a vowel team for long I. It is left over from old German and old English spelling: right, light, night, sigh, thigh, knight
✓ Y makes the long I sound when it is at the end of a root word: cry, fly, my, sky, reply, deny, satisfy
✓ Y makes the long I sound when it is before another vowel in a root syllable: cy-an-ide, hy-e-na
✓ Y makes the long I sound when it is in the middle of words of Greek origin: hydrogen, cyclone, stylish, dynasty, hyphen
✓ When IND, ILD, and IGN are at the end of a word, the I is long and remains long even when an English suffix is added: kind, mind, child, sign, signing, wilder, designer. Do not add these spelling patterns to the Ice Cream card.

Ocean Card
✓ Ocean - /_/ - spelled O, O-consonant-silent E, OA, OW, blank-OE
✓ The letter O is long and sounds like its name when it is the last letter in a syllable: go, ho-ping, o-pen, to-tal, mo-tion, ex-plo-sion
  o Exceptions: in Latin words the O is often short: tonic, product, astronomy
✓ The O is long in the O-consonant-E spelling pattern: hope, tone, pole, more, remote, explode
  o Exceptions: In words of Greek origin, the O_E pattern may be split over a syllable and the O remains long and the E is also long: epitome, apostrophe, catastrophe
✓ OA is a vowel team for the long O sound within a root word: road, coat, boat, board, throat, hoax, unload, shoal
✓ OW is a vowel team for the long O sound at the end of a root word or before a final L or N: know, slow, below, grown, thrown, shadow
NOTE: There is no way to tell whether the OW is pronounced as a long O or /ow/ as in cow. Students need to be taught to try both sounds when decoding.

OE is a vowel team for the long O sound at the end of a root word: hoe, toe, oboe, roe, throes

Unicorn Card

Unicorn - /_/ - spelled U, U-consonant-silent E, blank-UE, EW

The long vowel U sounds like the name of the letter U and is pronounced /yoo/. The Y sound in the long U is what distinguishes it from the OO sound of food. However, this Y sound is not present in words where the long U sound follows L or R: brute, flute, fluid, bruin

This Y sound in the long U sound is also what distorts the S sound in words like sure, insure, issue, treasure, visual

Exceptions: In some Latin words ending in U with only one consonant between the U and the next vowel, the U is long: accumulate, illuminate; but in others the U is short: stu-dy, pu-nish, ju-gu-lar

The letter U is long when it is the last letter in a syllable: u-nit, fu-el, tu-ning, hu-mor, flu, flu-ent

The U-consonant-silent E spelling pattern is a long U sound. In some words you can hear the YOO sound: use, cute, tube, duke, fortune, compute; and in others you only hear the OO sound because it is suppressed by the R or L: rule, crude, flute, intrude

UE is a vowel team for long U at the end of a root word: blue, true, statue, value, argue, barbecue, pursue, issue

Exceptions: When UE follows G or Q in words of French origin, the UE is silent: league, plaque, catalogue, unique

EW is a vowel team for long U at the end of a root word or before a final N: blew, few, grew, hewn, renewal, mildew
EU is another vowel team for long U, however the Greek, Latin, and French words that contain this spelling patterns are not common enough to add to the Sound-Spelling cards.

**Eagle Card**

- Eagle - /_/ - spelled E, E-consonant-silent E, EE, EA, blank-Y, blank-IE-blank
- The letter E is long and sounds like the name of the letter E when it is the last letter in the syllable (open syllable): he, e-ven, Pe-ter, de-cent, se-cret, pre- vi- ous
  - Exceptions: In an unstressed syllable, the long E sound can become muffled and sound like a short U (schwa sound): the, belong, remain, behind
- The letter E is long in the prefixes be-, de-, e- pre-, re-, and se-: report, remain, before, debate, evict, preview, repeat, secrete
- The second E in the E-consonant-silent E spelling pattern remains silent when a syllable beginning with a consonant is added to a word: eve, here, compete, precede, theme, supreme
  - Exceptions: were, there, where, ere, allege
- Most long E words are spelled with the EE and EA pattern
- EA is a vowel team for the long E sound. It is used primarily within the root but it can come at the end: each, read, sea, leaf, stream
  - Exceptions: The EA pattern can also be the short E sound. There is no way for the eye to tell which sound is spelled by EA. Students must be taught to try both sounds if necessary.
  - Exceptions: beauty (long U sound), yea (long A sound)
- EE is a vowel team for the long E sound. It is used primarily within the root but it can also be at the end: see, feet, green, needed, flee
  - Exceptions: been, breeches (short I)
- The letter Y spells the long E sound when it is in a suffix, and is the very last letter of a word: candy, happy, quickly, history, hurrying
- The letter Y spells the long E sound when it is unstressed before another vowel: hal-cy-on
✓ The vowel team blank-IE-blank spells the long E sound when it is within a root word: field, piece, relief, yield, achieve. NOTE: many of these words end in LD, F, or VE.
✓ The vowel team IE spells the long E sound when it is a suffix: birdie, brownie, lassie, eerie

**Cook Card**
✓ Cook - /oo/ (short sound) - spelled OO
✓ OO is a vowel team for the special English sound heard in the words book and cook. It is the short sound of OO and occurs in the middle of a word: look, book, cook, good, crook, wood
✓ While there is no way for the eye to distinguish between the OO of cook and the OO of moon, many of these words end with K or D

**Moon Card**
✓ Moon - /oo/ (long sound) - spelled OO
✓ OO is a vowel team for the special English sound heard in moon. It is the long sound of OO and occurs both in the middle and at the end of a root word: zoo, room, school, food, festoon, reproof, lagoon
✓ There is no way for the eye to distinguish between the OO of moon and the OO of cook, so students should be taught to try both sounds when necessary

**Owl Card**
✓ Owl - /ow/ - spelled OW, OU
✓ OW is a vowel team for the sound in owl at the end of a syllable or before a final L and N and sometimes before a final D: cow, prow, tower, howl, down, crowd, powder
  o NOTE: There is no way the eye can distinguish between the OW of owl and the OW of show, so students should be taught to try both sounds when necessary
✓ OU is a vowel team for the sound in owl and house within a word: loud, proud, count, sour, pronounce, pout
   o Exceptions: OU spells a variety of other sounds (four, soul, though, enough, soup, bought, courage, young, famous) but students should let context lead them to the correct variation

Boy Card
✓ Boy - /oy/ - spelled blank-OY, OI
✓ Blank-OY is the spelling for the vowel team for the special English sound in boy. It is used at the end of the root word: toy, joy, annoy, employ, oy-ster, loy-al
✓ OI is the spelling for this sound within the root word: toil, coin, point, moisture, sirloin, voice, asteroid
   o Exceptions: in the words tortoise and porpoise the OI is muffled and exhibits the schwa sound (short U)

Saw Card
✓ Saw - /aw/ - spelled AW, AU
✓ The vowel team AW is used for the special English sound in the word saw. It is used at the end of a root word and before a final L, N, or K: saw, crawl, draw, awful, awkward, brawn
✓ Before consonants other than L, N, or K, and with a root word, the special English sound in saw becomes AU: pause, author, daughter, because, jaunt, exhaust

Orange Card
✓ Orange - /or/ - spelled OR, ORE
✓ OR occurs in a stressed syllable before a vowel: orator, orange, forage, authority
✓ OR occurs followed by a different consonant within a word: corn, horse, shorter, morning
   o Exceptions: or, nor, for
✓ ORE occurs at the end of a word or syllable: more, core, before, forethought
**Bird Card**

- Bird - /er/ - spelled IR, ER, UR
- IR is a vowel team for the special English sound of ER and can come at the end of a word or within a word followed by another consonant: sir, fir, bird, dirt, skirt, birch, twirl, squirrel, confirm
- ER is a vowel team for the special English sound of ER and can come at the end of a word or within a word followed by another consonant. ER is also used as a suffix: after, never, paper, clerk, herd, person, government
- UR is a vowel team for the special English sound of ER and can come at the end of a word, within a word followed by another consonant, or doubled between vowels: fur, blur, nurse, curly, surprise, hurry, curry, murmur,
- When the /er/ sound is pronounced, no stream of air is emitted from the mouth

**Artist Card**

- Artist - /ar/ - spelled AR
- AR is a special letter team for the sound in artist. It occurs at the end of a word or is followed by a different consonant sound: car, far, jar, art, start, harvest, garden, carnival
  - Exceptions: In unstressed syllables, the AR sound may sound more like the ER sound: dollar, sugar, wizard, vinegar, nuclear