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3

Teaching the Lessons

To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.

—Victor Hugo

The poems and activities in this book provide lessons for students who are moving from phonemic awareness to phonological awareness. For children still developing phonemic awareness, the lessons will encourage them to hear and play with sounds. For children ready for phonological activities, the lessons will encourage them to point out which letters and letter combinations make the sounds they hear in words. Additionally, the student activity sheets can allow children the opportunity to utilize their knowledge of sounds and print.

This book was designed with a foundation of integrating sound into the classroom. We hope you will find it helpful for students who are hearing and manipulating sounds to students ready to match sounds and print. Once you have selected a poem, you can decide which type of phoneme activity you want your students to engage in. There are five sound manipulation activities for every poem. These activities are a natural way to differentiate your instruction. You may have a small group of children who need additional practice with just sound matching. You may also create a small group of children ready to match sounds and print—phonics instruction. You can use the provided activity as well as the activity sheet to support these students. Your close observations of how the children participate in the sound manipulations will guide your decision to review the sound activities or expand their experiences into paper-and-pencil work.

As an optional way to enhance each individual poetry lesson, copy the poems for each student to keep as a personal, year-long collection in a pocket folder or a three-ring binder. Once you have completed the poem together, you may want to display it at learning centers, or on the bulletin board, to encourage the children to revisit it often.

The table on the following page provides an overview of the five sound manipulation activities that are provided with each poem in this book.



#50980—Learning through Poetry: Long Vowels

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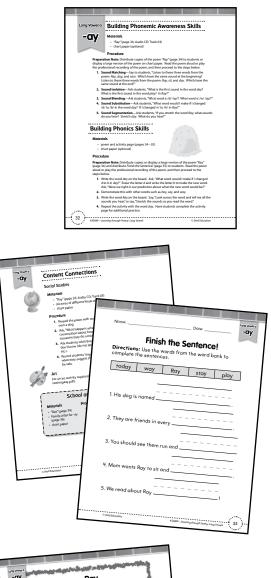
Teaching the Lessons (cont.)

This book presents 20 long vowel poems. The most important fact about vowels is that each syllable of a word has one vowel phoneme. *Phoneme* means sound unit, so we are not looking at the number of vowel letters we see, but the vowel phonemes we hear. Another way to think about this is, for every vowel phoneme one hears, that is one syllable in a word. For example, in the word *rope*, one can hear one vowel phoneme, the /o/, so there is one syllable. In the word *amuse*, one can hear two vowel phonemes, so that is a two-syllable word. Students need practice hearing vowel phonemes to eventually understand that they must include a vowel sound for each syllable they hear.

Understanding the Difference Between Consonants and Vowels

Experts generally agree that there are 44 sounds in our language. Of course that means there are more sounds than letters. But, what sets apart a consonant from a vowel? Vowels are designated as such because we do not restrict the airflow from our mouth when saying these sounds. Try this—say the word made. Do you notice how your lips go together for the /m/ sound, then your mouth opens for the /a/, and finally your tongue goes to the back of your teeth for the /d/ sound? This occurred because you shifted from blocked airflow, to unrestricted airflow, to blocked airflow or consonant, vowel, consonant.

Teaching the Lessons (cont.)

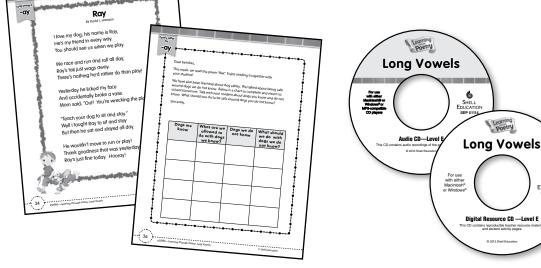


In the "Building Phonemic Awareness Skills" section, each sound manipulation activity suggests which words in the poem can be used for practice. Plan on spending about 10 minutes for each phonemic awareness activity and consider spreading the five manipulations over several days, reviewing the ones you already introduced.

Suggestions are made for those students ready to connect print and sound in the "Building Phonics Skills" section. These students can also be given the activity sheet to extend their experience working with consonant sounds in print.

Cross-curricular connections expand the use of a single poem into multiple contexts. The "Content Connections" section of the lesson helps relate the poems to other educational areas such as mathematics, social studies, or science, while the art section (located on the Digital Resource CD) provides connections in dance, music, arts and crafts, drama, and movement.

The "School and Home Connection" contains a letter for children's families, explaining the lesson's poem and suggesting an activity for completion at home. A copy of the poem should be sent home along with the letter. Each poem is provided within the lesson, ready for you to photocopy and enlarge as you see fit.



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1.3

Building Phonemic Awareness Skills

Materials

- "Jeremy Price" (page 69; Audio CD: Track 10)
- chart paper (optional)

Procedure

Preparation Note: Distribute copies of the poem "Jeremy Price" (page 69) to students or display a large version of the poem on chart paper. Read the poem aloud or play the professional recording of the poem, and then proceed to the steps below.

- 1. **Sound Matching**—Say to students, "Listen to these three words from the poem: *beans, bowls, rice*. Which have the same sound at the beginning? Listen to these three words from the poem: *Price, rice, fed*. Which have the same sound at the end?"
- 2. Sound Isolation—Ask students, "What is the first sound in *rice*? What is the first sound in *mice*? In *nice*?"
- 3. Sound Blending—Ask students, "What word is /r/ /ice/? What word is /n/ /ice/?"
- **4.** Sound Substitution—Ask students, "What word would I make if I changed /m/ to /d/ in the word *mice*? If I changed /n/ to /sl/ in the word *nice*?"
- **5. Sound Segmentation**—Ask students, "If you stretch the word *nice*, what sounds do you hear? Stretch *rice*. What do you hear?"

Building Phonics Skills

Materials

- poem and activity page (pages 69–70)
- chart paper (optional)



Procedure

Preparation Note: Distribute copies or display a large version of the poem "Jeremy Price" (page 69) and distribute *Rhyming Word Matching* (page 70) to students. Read the poem aloud or play the professional recording of the poem, and then proceed to the steps below.

- 1. Write the word *mice* on the board. Ask, "What word would I make if I changed *m* to *d* in *mice*?" Erase the letter *m* and write the letter *d* to make the new word. Ask, "Were we right in our prediction about what the new word would be?"
- 2. Demonstrate this with other words such as *slice*, *lice*, and *vice*.
- **3.** Write the word *nice* on the board. Say, "Look across the word and tell me all the sounds you hear." Or say, "Stretch the sounds as you read the word."
- **4.** Repeat the activity with the word *rice*. Have students complete the activity page for additional practice.



Long Vowel i

-ICe

Long Vowel i

-ice

Content Connections

Math



Materials

- "Jeremy Price" (page 69; Audio CD: Track 10)
- paper bag
- objects or images that rhyme with *ice*: rice, spice(s), mice, dice, price tag
- objects or images that do not rhyme with ice

Procedure

- 1. Put all the objects or images listed in the materials in a paper bag. As you pull each object from the bag, ask students to identify it.
- 2. Does it rhyme with *ice*? If yes, put it in one pile; if no, put it in another pile.
- **3.** After pulling all the objects, ask students to help you count how many objects rhymed with *ice*, and how many did not.



Art

For an art activity supporting this lesson, please see the Digital Resource CD (artlongiice.pdf).

School and Home Connection

Materials

Procedure

• "Jeremy Price" (page 69)

(page 71)

• Family Letter for -ice

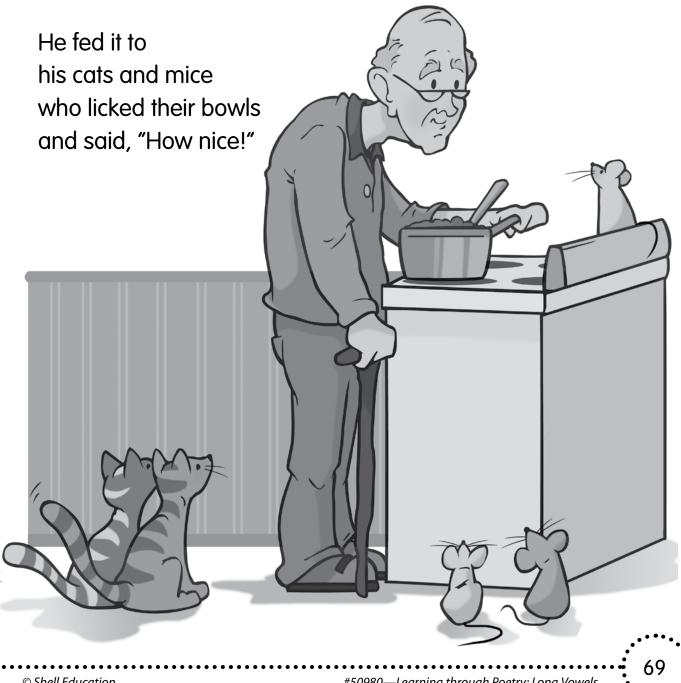
- **1.** Attach the poem to the family letter.
- 2. When students return with their papers, ask them to display their rhyme list.
- 3. Together, read over the rhyming pairs.

Long Vowel i -ice

Jeremy Price

By David L. Harrison

An odd old man named Jeremy Price cooked a pot of beans and rice.



Long Vowel i

-ice

Name: _____ Date: _____

Rhyming Word Matching

Directions: Draw a line to match the words that rhyme.

rice	cold
name	nice
old	dice
mice	game

Use one of the *-ice* words in a sentence.

Family Letter for

-ice

Dear Families,

This week, we read the poem "Jeremy Price." Enjoy reading it together with your student!

We have also been learning about counting. We counted items that rhymed with *ice*. Help your student look around and find sets of 2 items that rhyme (such as shoe and glue, door and floor, hat and cat). Write your rhymes below and return the paper to school tomorrow to share.

Sincerely,

Items	we found	d that	rhyme:
-------	----------	--------	--------

	and
	and
	and
	and — — — — — — — —
	and — — — — — — — — —
▲··▲ ·· ▲ ·· ▲ ·· ▲	