

# Long Vowel Strategies — Silent-e and Vowel Team Patterns

**How to use:** Print first for the main practice. Then use the device to repeat activities and save progress.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1 Use the silent-e strategy to read
- 2 Spell long vowel words
- 3 Use the vowel team strategy to read
- 4 Spell long vowel words
- 5 Match a short vowel base word to its long vowel version

## MINI LESSON

When you see a long vowel in a word, one of two things is usually making it long — a silent e at the end of the word, or a vowel team in the middle. Knowing both strategies helps you read any long vowel word!

### Strategy 1 — Silent-e (magic e)

- Add an e to the end of a short vowel word and the vowel "says its name."
- The final e is silent — you do not say it out loud.
- Pattern: cap -> cape, hop -> hope, kit -> kite, cub -> cube.
- The vowel before the consonant becomes long: a -> long /a/, o -> long /o/, i -> long /i/, u -> long /u/.

### Strategy 2 — Vowel Team

- Two vowels together make one long vowel sound.
- Pattern: plan -> plain (ai), met -> meet (ee), rod -> road (oa).
- When you see two vowels together, try the long sound of the first vowel.

### How to choose your strategy

- See an e at the very end? Try silent-e first.
- See two vowels side by side? Try the vowel team strategy.

**VOCABULARY**

<b>Silent e</b>	The letter e at the end of a word that is not spoken aloud but makes the vowel before it long <i>e.g. the e in cape, hope, kite, and cube</i>
<b>Magic e</b>	Another name for silent e — it is "magic" because it turns a short vowel into a long vowel <i>e.g. cap becomes cape, hop becomes hope</i>
<b>Vowel team</b>	Two vowels sitting next to each other that work together to make one long vowel sound <i>e.g. ai in plain, ee in meet, oa in road</i>
<b>Long vowel</b>	A vowel that "says its name" — long a, long e, long i, long o, long u <i>e.g. the a in cape, the e in meet</i>
<b>Strategy</b>	A plan or trick you use to read or spell a word <i>e.g. using silent-e to read cube, or using a vowel team to read road</i>

**Strategy 1 - Silent e**

short vowel word + silent e -> long vowel

cap	->	cap e	long /a/
hop	->	hop e	long /o/
kit	->	kit e	long /i/
cub	->	cub e	long /u/

**Strategy 2 - Vowel Team**

short vowel word vowel team -> long vowel

plan	->	pl ai n	long /a/
met	->	m ee t	long /e/
rod	->	r oa d	long /o/

! Ask yourself: "Is there a silent e at the end, or are two vowels working together? Which strategy will help me read this word?"

**EXERCISES — MATCH THE PAIRS**

Draw a line from each short vowel word on the left to its long vowel match on the right.

1. cap	A. plain
2. hop	B. meet
3. kit	C. road
4. plan	D. cape
5. met	E. hope
6. rod	F. kite

Write the matching letter next to each number (e.g. 1-B, 2-A, 3-C...).

1 — \_\_\_\_ 2 — \_\_\_\_ 3 — \_\_\_\_ 4 — \_\_\_\_ 5 — \_\_\_\_ 6 — \_\_\_\_

## EXERCISES — MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What does the silent e at the end of a word do?

- It adds a new vowel sound to the word.
- It makes the vowel before the consonant say its long sound.
- It changes the consonant at the end of the word.

2. What word do you get when you add a silent e to cap?

- cape
- cup
- camp

3. Which word is the long vowel version of hop?

- hip
- hops
- hope

4. What is the vowel team strategy?

- Add e to the end of the word.
- When two vowels appear together, the first one says its long sound.
- Remove the first vowel from the word.

5. Which word is the long vowel version of plan?

- plain
- plane
- plans

6. Which strategy makes the word kite have a long vowel?

- Vowel team
- R-controlled vowel
- Silent-e

7. Which word is the long vowel version of rod?

- rode
- road
- roam

8. Which word is the long vowel version of met?

- meet
- mate
- meat

9. Which word uses the silent-e strategy to make a long vowel?

- rain
- feet
- cube

10. What are the two main strategies for reading long vowel words?

- Bossy r and blending
- Silent-e and vowel team
- Digraphs and syllables

## ASSESSMENT

### PARENT / TEACHER CHECKLIST

- Reads silent-e words aloud with the correct long vowel sound (e.g., says "cape," "hope," "kite," and "cube" correctly).
- Reads vowel team words aloud with the correct long vowel sound (e.g., says "plain," "meet," and "road" correctly).
- Looks at a long vowel word and names which strategy is being used — silent-e or vowel team.
- Matches a short vowel base word (e.g., "cap") to its long vowel version (e.g., "cape") without help.