

## 2:1 Reading

### Sounds of the Vowels

- Vowels: a, e, i, o, u (and “y” when it makes the sound of “i”)
- Although each vowel has several sounds, the majority of vowels make two distinct and common sounds (long and short)
- The long sounds are the same as their names. The long “a” says “a” like in “ate”.
- Short vowel sounds:
  - A as in astronaut
  - E as in egg
  - I as in igloo
  - O as in octopus
  - U as in umbrella

## 2:1a Reading

### Consonant Sounds

- Those letters that are not vowels are consonants.
- Although there are many more consonants than vowels, each word has at least one vowel in it.

A few rules make reading somewhat easier.

- Rule 1: If a word (or syllable) has one vowel, then that vowel is short.

At, it,  
It is a dog in the mud.

## 2:1b Reading

- Rule 2: If a word (or syllable) has two vowels, then the first vowel is long and the second is silent (is not sounded).

Soak the pail to clean it.

Heap the meat in the pail.

Rule 3: If a word ends with an “e” the “e” is silent and the vowel that precedes it is long or is pronounced with its name.

Man mane

Rid ride

Kit kite

We had to strip the stripe from the van.

## 2:1c Reading

Watch for blends of letters that make a sound:

- “st” like “stop”
  - “pl” like “play”
  - “br” like “brown”
  - “tr” like “try”
  - “fr” like “fry”
  - “gl” like “grass”
  - “cl” like clay
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- “fl” like “floor”
  - “cr” like “crumb”
  - “sw” like “swing”
  - “sn” like “sneak”
  - “th” like “there”
  - “sh” like “short”
  - “pr” like “principal”
  - “sk” like “skate”