## Component: Encoding

Instructional Activity: Words with Long Aa Spelled a_e
Materials Needed: sound-spelling cards, whiteboards, markers, erasers

## State the objective(s).

The sound of long $A a$, /āāā/, can be spelled several ways. One common spelling pattern for /āāā/ is $a_{-} e$. Read the pattern as $a$-blank$e$. You will practice spelling words containing the pattern.

## Review prerequisite skills and teach related vocabulary.

Refer to the sound-spelling cards as you review the vowels. There are two kinds of letters: consonants and vowels. The vowels are Aa, Ee, li, Oo, and Uu. Sometimes the letter Yy can also make a vowel sound.

Each vowel can make two sounds: A short vowel sound and a long vowel sound. You've learned the short and long vowel sound for Aa. Repeat after me. Point to $A a$. The short vowel sound is /ăăă/. What's the short vowel sound? Students: /ăăă/.
The long vowel sound is /āāā/. What's the long vowel sound? Students: /āāā/
A syllable is a chunk of a word that contains one vowel sound. Write $a_{-} e$ on the board. Point to the letters as you explain: If a syllable ends in a vowel followed by a consonant and then a final $e$, the syllable is called a silent $e$ syllable. The silent $e$ changes the sound of the vowel before it to its long sound. A single $a$ followed by a consonant and then an $e$ will make the sound /āāā/. A silent e syllable always ends with a consonant sound.

Note: Sound-spelling cards for long vowel sounds generally do not have letters at the top of each card. There is usually a picture representing a word that contains the long vowel sound, plus a list of the most frequently-used spelling patterns for the sound.

Demonstrate. Teach the new skill, model with clear explanations, verbalize your thinking process.
Display or hold the sound-spelling card for long Aa. Using sticky notes, cover over any spellings at the bottom of the card that have not yet been taught. Make sure $a_{-} e$ is uncovered for this lesson. Point to the picture at the top of the card.

- The sound is /āāā/. The key word is $\qquad$ . What's the key word? Students: $\qquad$ _
- The sound /āāā/ can be held a long time. Listen: /āāā/. Hold the sound for 2-3 seconds. What's the sound? Students: /āāā/
- Point to the spelling patterns at the bottom of the card. One way to spell the sound /āāā/ is $a_{-} e$. Read: $a-b l a n k-e$. What's one way to spell /āāā/? Students: $a_{-} e$ Make sure students read the pattern as $a$-blank-e.
- A silent e syllable always ends with a consonant sound.

I'm going to spell a word that contains the long vowel sound /āāā/ spelled $a$-blank-e.
The word is stale. Stale refers to food, especially bread, that gets old and dry.
First, I count the syllables. I'll hold up one finger for each syllable I hear: stale. One syllable.
I stretch the sounds in stale: /ssstāāäll/. I ask myself: Where do I hear the sound /āāā/ in the syllable? I hear the sound /āāā/ in the middle of the syllable. There's a consonant sound before and after the sound /āāā/.

I think: How can I spell the sound /āāā/ when there's a consonant sound after it in the syllable? I know! I can use the spelling a-blanke.

I stretch and spell the word stale: /sss/ write s; /t/ write $t / a \bar{a} a ̄ /$ write $a_{-} e ; / I I I /$ write I in the blank between $a$ and $e$.
Note: As students become more familiar with the vowel-consonant-silent e pattern, teach them how to hold the e in their head and write the vowel and the consonant, then the e. But for now, as they are learning the pattern, have them write it as a_e, then put the letter representing the consonant sound in the blank.

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## Provide guided practice.

Distribute student whiteboards, markers, and erasers.

Let's spell some words together. Each word contains the long a sound spelled with a_e.
The first word is invade. What word? Students and teacher: invade

Count the syllables in invade. Prompt: Hold up one finger for each syllable. Students and teacher: in-vade. Two syllables.

What's the first syllable? Students and teacher: in-
Does it contain a long vowel sound? Students and teacher: no
Stretch and spell the syllable. Students and teacher: /iii/ write $i ; / n n n /$ write $n$.
What's the second syllable in invade? Students and teacher: -vade
Does it contain a long vowel sound? Students and teacher: yes
Is there a consonant sound after the long vowel sound in the syllable? Students and teacher: yes
What spelling pattern will you use for the long $a$ in invade? Students and teacher: $a_{-} e$
Stretch and spell-vade. Students and teacher: /vvv/ write $v$; /āāā/write $a_{-} e ; / d /$ write $d$ in the blank between $a$ and $e$.

Check your work by pointing under each syllable in the word and reading it, sounding it out if needed, then putting it all together and reading the whole word. Students and teacher: /iiinnnn//vvvāāād/ invade.

Use the routine above to spell the words graze and pavement.
s

| If students need support with: | Then try this: |
| :--- | :--- |
| Segmenting syllables | To make the activity more visual have the student use manipulatives to push and say each syllable OR <br> have students hum the word to determine the number of syllables in the word. |

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## Provide independent practice.

Now it's your turn to spell words on your own. I will walk through the steps with you, but you will spell the word by yourself. l'll be looking at your whiteboards to see how you're doing.

Follow this routine using words from the Word List.

- Repeat the word.
- Count the syllables.
- Say the first syllable. If there's a long vowel sound in it, think: Do you hear it at the beginning, middle, or end of the syllable? What spelling pattern should I choose?
- Stretch and spell the first syllable.
- If the word has more than one syllable, say the next syllable. If there's a long vowel sound in it, think: Do you hear it at the beginning, middle, or end of the syllable? What spelling pattern should I choose?
- Stretch and spell the next syllable.
- Continue until you've spelled all of the syllables in the word.
- Check your work. Point under each syllable and read it, then put the syllables together and read the whole word.

| Word List |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| tame | crave |
| basement | cascade |
| concave | update |



Assess students (formally or informally). Determine the level of mastery for the stated objective.
Observe individual students as they respond during guided and independent practice.
Scaffold or correct all errors. Provide specific feedback for accurate responses.

Enrichment/Extension. Provide enrichment and extension activities for students who need less support.

To familiarize students with the VCe spelling pattern, have them look for and list words they find in text that use the pattern.

