



Open Vowels Within Single Syllable Words

Open Syllable

a
be
l
no
flu

Closed Syllable

am
bet
in
not
flub

Open Vowels Within Multisyllabic Words

pro-gram
re-sist
be-gan
stu-dent
de-pend
bo-nus
u-nit
mo-ment
mu-sic
a-pron

cu-pid
u-nit
i-so-late
ho-tel
ta-ble
e-ven
mo-ment
oo-pen-ing
di-no-saur
in-flu-en-za

In multisyllabic words ending with an a, the a sounds like /uh/.



For FFL parents:

Kids often have difficulty deciding when a vowel is **open** or **closed** . . . because they do not know what the word says in the first place. 😊

The word di-no-saur could just as easily say din-os-aur, right?

How can kids know where each syllable ends— in an unknown word?

And if they don't know where a syllable ends, how can they know if the vowel is open (*saying its name*) or if it is closed (*making its short sound*)?

Here's how I teach this:

Tell your kids that, like a Magic e, any vowel can jump over one letter and tell another vowel to “Say your name!”
(It doesn't always work, but it often does.)

Look at all of the words on the previous page.

Could you draw an arrow from one vowel, up and over another letter, and land on a vowel to tell it to say its name? Try it!

***Magic e's don't make a sound in single syllable words, but they DO within longer words.**

The “any vowel can jump” rule works **a lot** of the time.
(not with pro-gram, a-pron, or ta-ble)

If this trick doesn't work, our kids can simply “flip it”
(*the vowel sound*) to make a word they know.

begin tablet tomato Friday noted pencil delectable

Make arrows above each of these words to decide if vowels are jumping to tell other vowels to say their names. They can only jump over one letter!