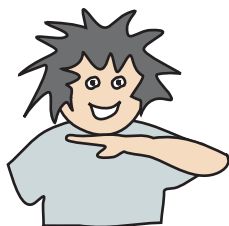




Just like a word is made of letters, longer words are made of syllables.



If you put your hand under your chin, you can count how many syllables are in a word – your chin will drop every time you say a syllable. So, say the following words after me, and let's count how many syllables are in each word. (Teacher/parent note: Make sure you exaggerate each word so that the motion is big enough to feel.)

spaghetti
pizza
pie
popcorn
lollipop
candy
chocolate

cat
giraffe
hippopotamus
snake
alligator
elephant
rhinoceros

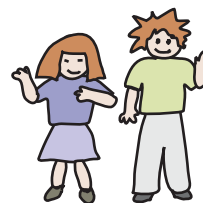


A syllable always has a vowel in it – it's the vowel that makes your chin drop.

You already know how to read some two-syllable words –



Today is my
birthday.



A **sister** and a
brother.

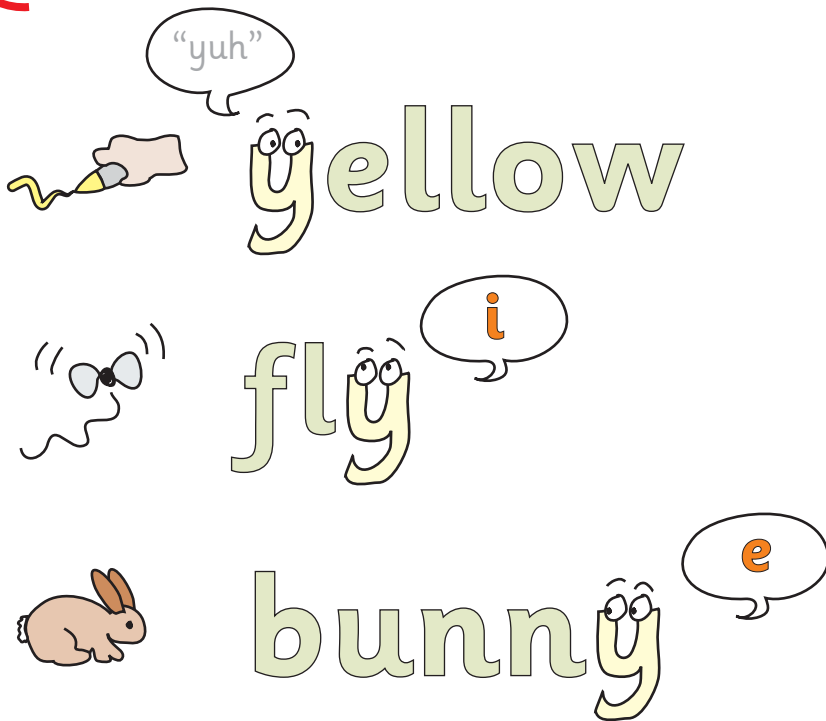


A **tiger** can't
read a **letter**.

And in this book we're going to learn some more two-syllable words. Ready?



First, we are now going to learn more about the letter “y”.



Usually, at the beginning of a word, the letter “y” says “yuh”, like in “yes”, “yellow” and “you.” But at the end of a word, the letter “y” doesn’t have his own sound, so he calls out the name of another vowel, usually the letter “e” or the letter “i.”



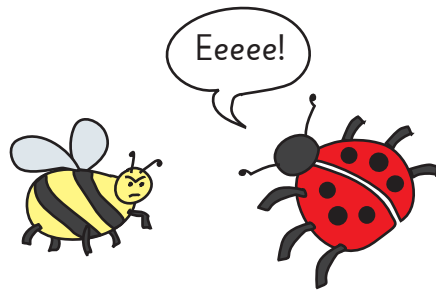
At the end of a very short, one-syllable word, the letter “y” calls out the name of the letter “i” –



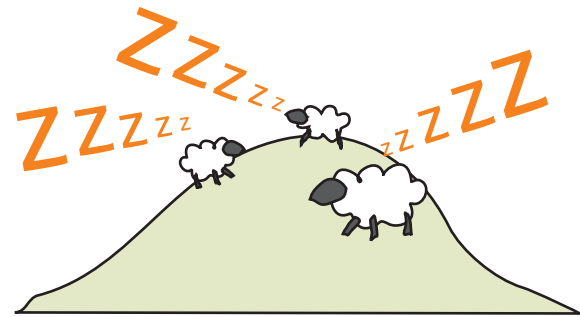
My sister says that I must **try**
to eat **my** peas – but **why**, oh, **why?**
My peas are special – see them **fly**,
so someone tell me **why**, oh, **why**
I must eat peas that **fly, fly, fly?**



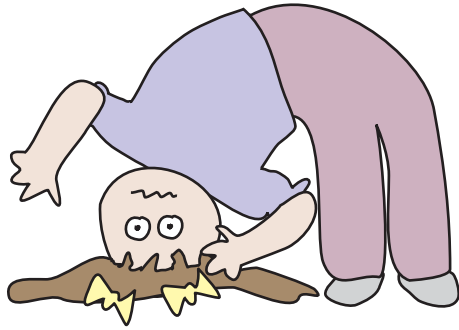
But if a word has TWO syllables (two vowel sounds), the letter “y” calls out the name of the letter “e” –



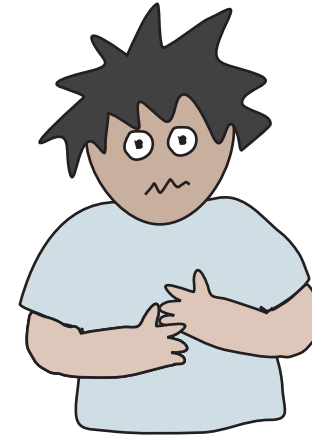
When a **lady** bug
bit a **baby** bee,
the **lady** bug said,
“Hee, hee, hee.”
But when the
baby bee bit her back,
the **lady** bug
said, “Eeeeee!”



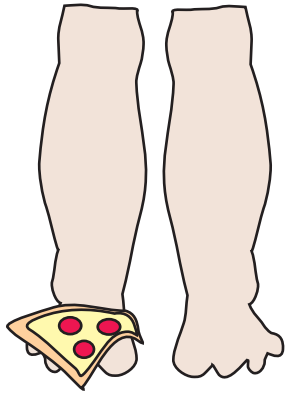
See **sleepy** sheep sleep
slowly on the hill.
Sleepy sheep sleep **slowly**
so they don't get ill.
But do **silly**, **sleepy** sheep see
the **sunny** shine?
No. Slow sheep **slowly**
sleep all the **sleepy** time.



My head is **heavy**;
 it is **ready** for bed.
My head is **heavy**,
 and **my** brain feels dead.
 I am **ready** for sleep;
 I am **ready** for bed –
 so can someone please pick up
my heavy, heavy head?



I was **happy** with my **candy**,
 my **candy** was good,
 but my **twenty** bits of **candy**
 were all that I could
 eat before my **tummy**
 felt rather **funny** –
 now I'm **sorry** that my **candy**
 was so **yummy, yummy** good.



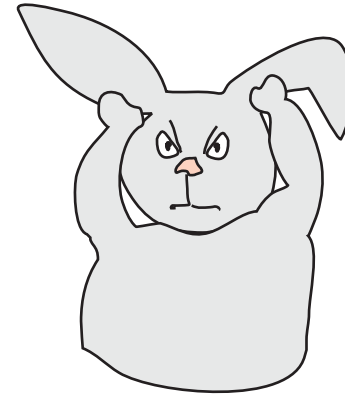
Remember...

Cheese can be **cheesy**
and a **sneeze** can be **sneezy**.

It is **easy** to be **sneezy** –
put pepper on your nose.

And to make your “**sneezy**” **cheesy**,
put pizza on your toes.

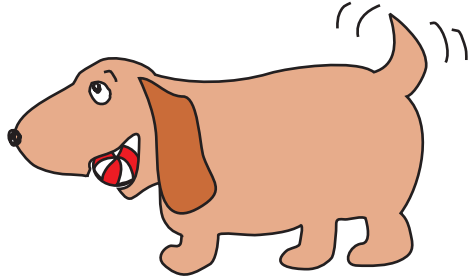
But please, please, “**pleasy**”
keep the “**cheesy**” off your clothes.



I know a lot of jokes –
I think some are **funny**.
I know a lot of jokes,
and I tell them to **my bunny**.
But **my bunny** doesn't laugh –
he thinks none of them are **funny**.
Do I need **funny** jokes,
or do I need a **funny bunny**?



Sometimes the “y” is silent and doesn’t say anything, like when the “y” is right next to the letter “a,” like in say, day and play.



I **always say**, “thank you.”
 I **always say**, “please.”
 I **always say**, “excuse me,”
every time I sneeze.
 But **my** dog, **Sparky**,
says nothing at all
 except, “feed **my tummy**,”
 and, “let’s **play** ball.”



Maybe a **baby**
 just pretends to be small.
Maybe a **baby**
 is not a **baby** at all.
Maybe a **baby**
 is a giant in disguise,
 with big, **hairy** feet
 and yellow, **scary** eyes.



Remember the naughty silent “e”? Well, the letter “y” at the end of a word does the SAME thing –

c-a-p
cap

cap e

cap e

cap y

A
cap e

baby

baby

A
baby



But if there are TWO consonants between the first vowel and the “y” at the end, then the naughty “y” can’t reach over and pinch the vowel.

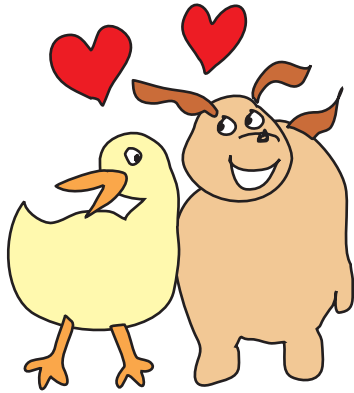
This is how you can tell if the first vowel is short or long – making its sound (-a-) or calling out its name (AAAAA!)

o
bony

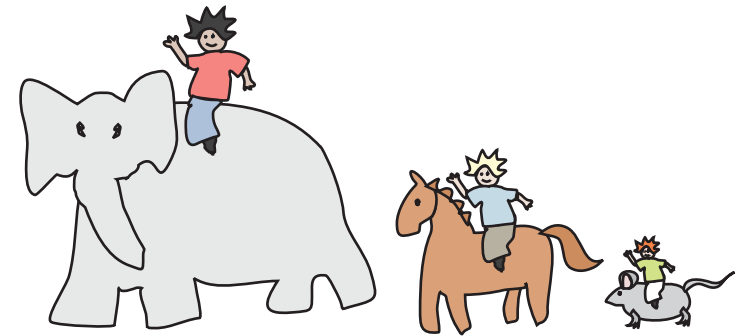
bon n y

bonn y

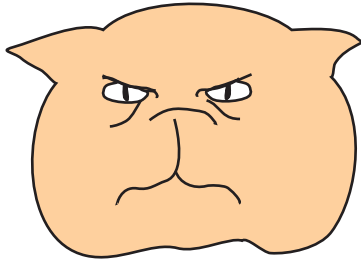
(Bony means having lots of bones, or having bones that you can easily see. Bonny means nice to look at, good looking.)



Mary wants to marry **Larry**,
 and **Larry** wants to marry **Mary**.
 But **Mary** is a dog,
 and **Larry** is a duck...
 So will **Mary** marry **Larry**?
 They will need a lot of luck.



Tony rode a **pony**
 all around the house.
Timmy was too **tiny**,
 so he had to ride a mouse.
 But **Tommy** wasn't **tiny**;
Tommy was big.
 So **Tommy** rode an elephant –
 that is what he did.



Katy Cat
hates to be happy.

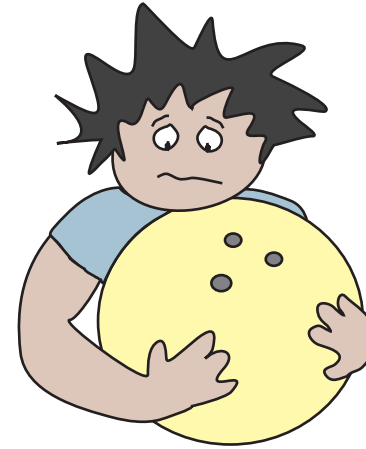
Katy Cat
is always snappy.

The one thing **Katy**

Cat likes to do

is frown, frown, frown

at me and you.



I do not **care** to **carry**
my **baby** brother, **Harry**.

I do not **care** to **carry**
Baby Harry at all.

Because **Harry** is so **heavy** –

Baby Harry is not small –

would you **care** to **carry**

a ten ton bowling ball?



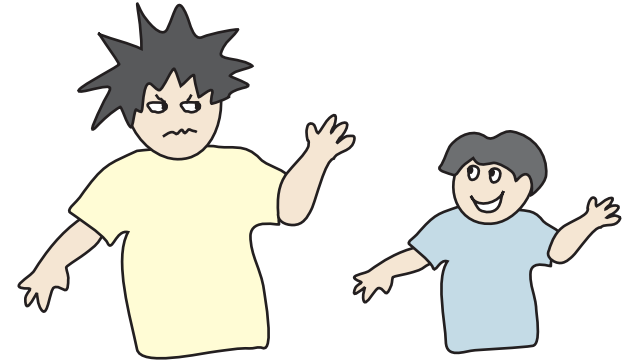
So while it's a pretty good rule, lots of words break it. We are going to learn some important words that break this rule, starting with "body" – instead of saying "boady", we say "boddy" –



If **Bobby** has a **body**,
 can **Bobby** be a ghost?
 No, **nobody** with a **body**,
 not even little **Bobby**,
 can be a good ghost
 or eat ghost toast.



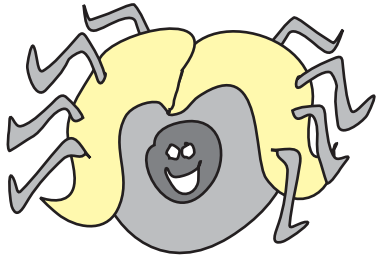
Another word that breaks the rule is "copy" – instead of saying "coapy," we say, "cobby" –



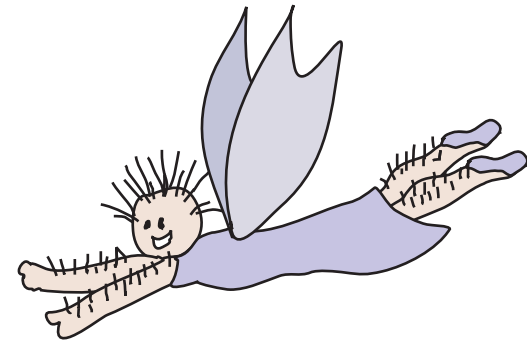
My brother is a **copy** cat.
 Whatever I do,
 he has to **copy** that.
 I wish he would **copy**
somebody else –
 I am the only one
 who can **copy** myself.



The word “very” doesn’t follow the rule either. Instead of saying, “veery”, we say “very” which sounds like “scary” and “Mary” –



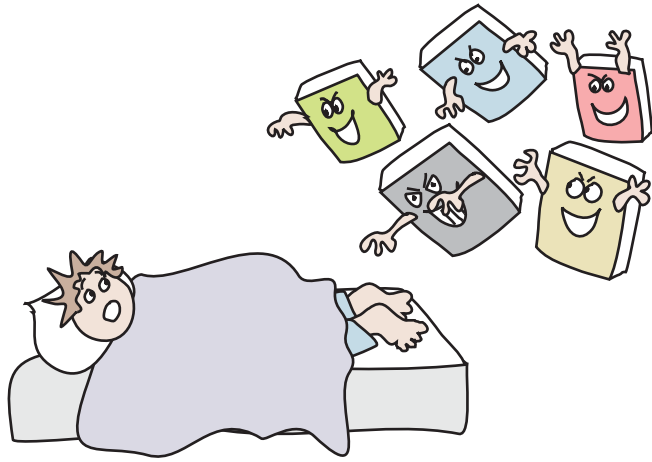
Bugs are not **very scary** at all.
 And the **very** best bugs
 don’t fly – they crawl.
 A big, black bug that is **very**,
very hairy – like my spider here;
 I call her **Mary** –
 is so **very** quick at crawling on the wall
 that I can never let out to crawl at all.



Mary the fairy
 is **very, very hairy**.
Mary is so hairy
 it is **very, very scary**.
 If **Mary** the fairy
 ever went bald,
Mary would not be
very scary at all.



The word “every” is a also bit strange.
Instead of sounding like “very” (ee-very),
it sounds like “ever” and “never.”



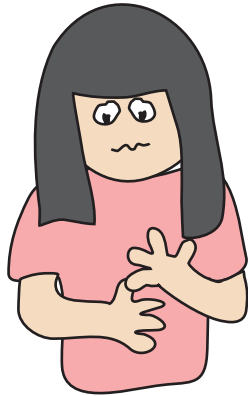
Every book I **ever** read
is stuck in here inside my head.
And **every** night when I go to sleep,
the books come out to tickle my feet.
I wish I **never** read so **very** many
books; **every** one of them is bad –
just take a look!



I **never, ever** go to sleep
with shoes and socks upon my feet.
I take my shoes off **every** night,
and then I turn off **every** light.
Then I jump into my **very** big bed
and pull my blanket over my head.
But **every** day, just after dawn,
when I wake up, my shoes are on.

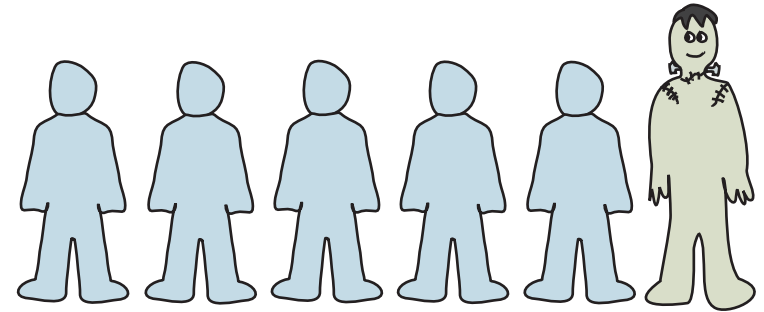


The words, “any” and “many” also break the rule. They SHOULD sound like “ainy” and “mainy” but they don’t – they sound like “enny” and “menny” –



Every time I eat a lot of dirt,
I feel **very** sick – my tummy
starts to hurt.

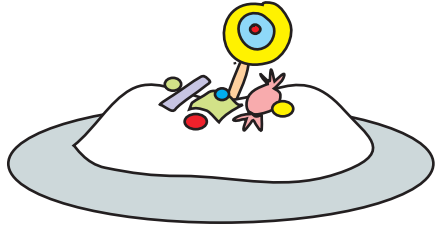
I feel **very** hot, and my insides burn –
it happens **every** time
I pretend to be a worm.



Many men were standing
in a long, long line.

And **many** of the **men**
were there a long time.

But were **any** of the **many men**
in the long line
called Benny or Denny
or Frankenstein?



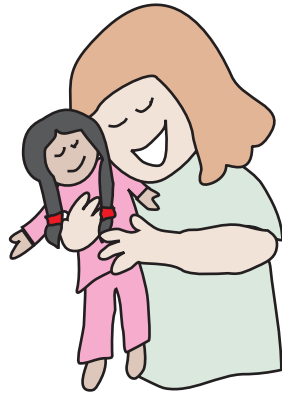
If I could have **anything** –
anything to eat –
 would I eat **any** rice?
 Would I eat **any** meat?
 No, I want **candy** –
candy is so nice.
 Do we have **any candy**
 I can put on my rice?



If I could have **any** pet –
any pet at all –
 would **any** pet be right for me?
Any pet at all?
 But I don't worry,
 I'm not in **any** hurry,
 I will find the right pet
 when the pet finds me.



The word “only” also doesn’t follow the rules – instead of saying “on-ly,” we say “own-ly” –



I **only** feel **lonely**
 when I’m **alone** by myself,
 I **only** feel **lonely**
 when there’s nobody else.
 But I am **only lonely** for
 a very short time, because my
 doll jumps off the shelf, and
 then everything is fine.



Cindy Sue is **only** two,
 so Cindy Sue got **only** two
 lollipops to suck.
 And though Cindy Sue is **only** two,
 Cindy Sue thought **only** two
 was nowhere near enough.



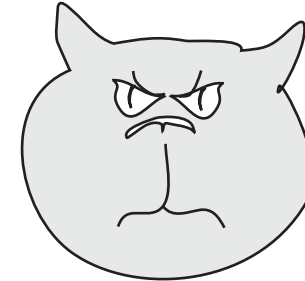
And remember, even though the word, “one,” looks like “lone” and “bone,” it sounds like “fun” and “sun” –



I was all **alone** and **lonely** – the **only one** awake. I was all **alone** and **lonely**, so I made a chocolate cake. I thought I would have **only one** bite... **only one** sliver... **only one** slice... and when I was finished I was glad that I had made **only one** **only lonely** little cake.



The word, “pretty,” is another rule breaker. It should sound like “Betty” and “spaghetti”, but instead it sounds like “kitty” and “city” –



Katy Cat was a **pretty**, **pretty kitty**; a **pretty**, **pretty kitty** was she. But no **pretty** cat can frown like that and still be **pretty** to see.



“Pretty” means “nice to look at” but can also mean “quite a bit” like, *he’s pretty good*, or *it’s pretty big*.



I am **pretty** good at running –

I can run **pretty** fast –

so how come every race

I am last, last, last?

I am **pretty, pretty** sure,

and it’s **pretty** plain to see,

that the people I am racing

are all bigger than me.



Sometimes the “y” at the end of a word is spelled with “ie” –



There is **only** one **cookie** left in the bag.

Only one **cookie** –

and the **cookie** looks sad.

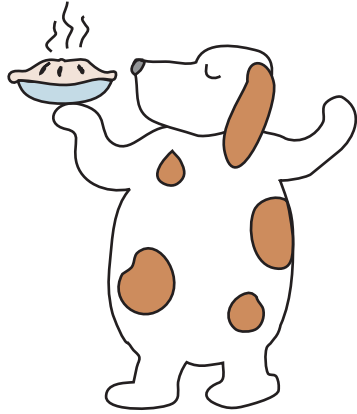
All alone, **only** one in the bag...

I think I will eat it,

and then it won’t be sad.



See how “cookie” and “cutie” look like “pie” and “lie” but sound different.



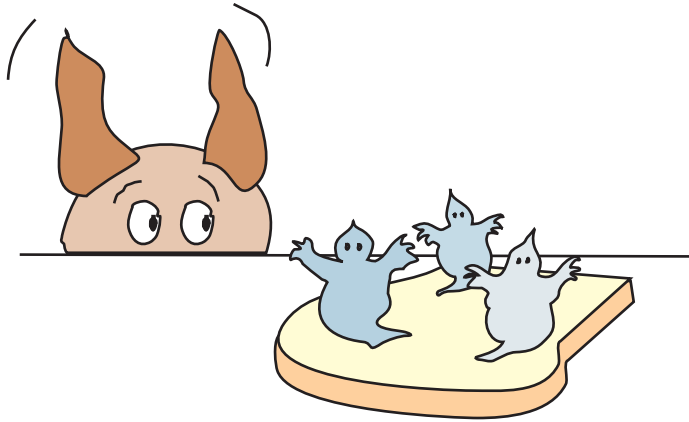
Every time my dog does a trick,
 I have to call him, “**cutie**.”
 But now he wants much more than that –
 like candy or a **cookie**.
 What will I do when my doggy wants
 to get an apple **pie**?
 Do I **lie** and give him **cookies**,
 or bake my dog a **pie**?



And in the middle of a word, “i” and “e” together also sound like the “e” in cookie – **niece**, **piece**...



My aunt told me
 that I was a **nice niece** –
 a very **nice niece** indeed.
 Such a **nice niece**,
 not a bother nor a beast,
 that she gave me a **piece**
 of a **cookie** for a treat.



I **believe** in vampires,
and I **believe** in ghosts.
I **believe** in monsters
dancing on my toast.
My dog does not **believe**
in a vampire or a ghost –
but I **believe** that he can see
the monsters on my toast.



The tooth fairy is
a **thief, thief, thief**
who comes at night
to steal my **teeth**.
I do not want that
thief, thief, thief
to take any more of my
teeth, teeth, teeth
so I put a padlock on my mouth
to keep the tooth **thief** out, out, out.



The word “friend” breaks the rule, instead of saying, “freend,” we say, “frend” like in “send” and “bend” –



I will **send** my **friend**
a **piece** of **pie**.

And my **friend** will say,
“For me? Oh, my!”

Then my **friend**
will **send** it back to me,
so I can **send** it again
to my **friend** – whoopee!

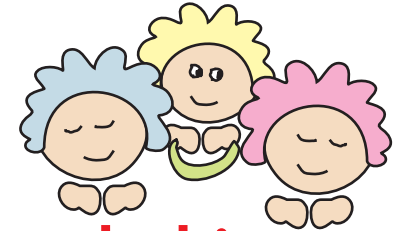


We learned this in an earlier book, but let’s look at it again. When we add an “s” to a word that ends in “y,” look what happens –

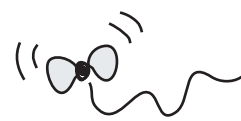
baby → **babi + es**



baby



babies



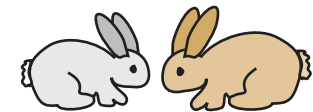
fly



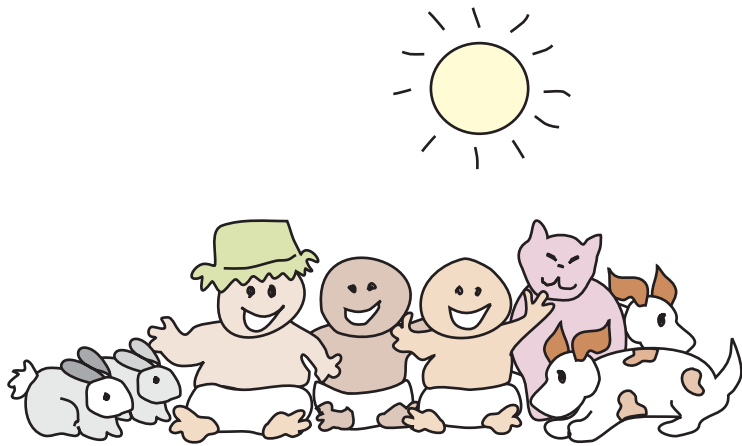
flies



bunny



bunnies



One **baby**, two **babies**,
 three **babies** sat
 out in the sun with only one hat.
 The **babies** had to share their
 silly, frilly hat with **bunnies** and
puppies and a big, pink cat.



But if the “y” is silent (which usually happens when another vowel is standing right next to the “y”) we don’t have to change the “y” to anything – we just add an “s”.



day



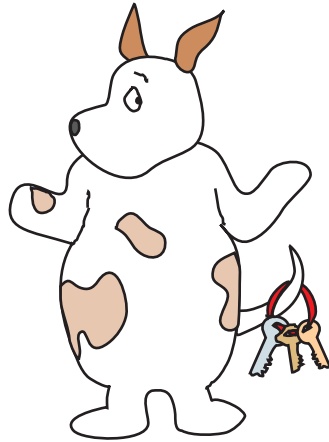
days



key



keys



My cat **says** that she has
 a lot of **keys**, but when she
try, try, tries to find them,
 the **keys** never are
 in the house or in the car –
 even the dog **says** he can't find them.



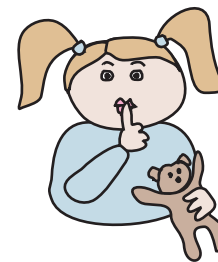
Most of the time when two vowels are walking together, only ONE vowel gets to talk. But sometimes, BOTH vowels get to say something –



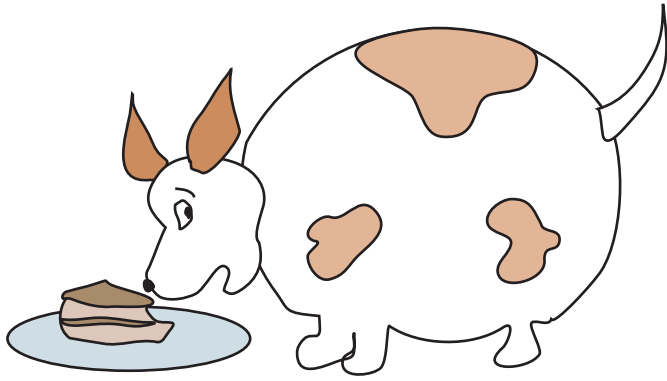
thief



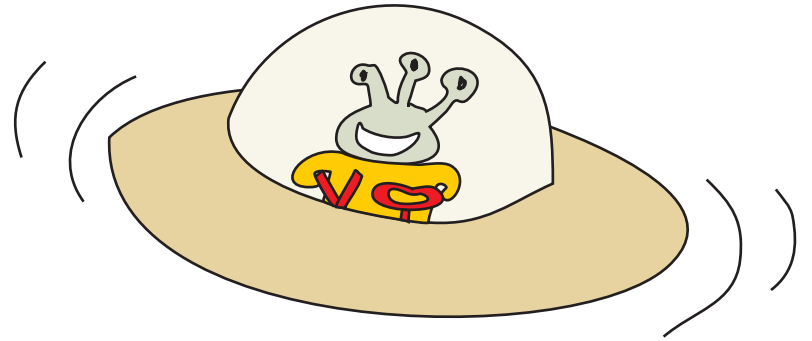
pie



quiet



My dog is very **quiet**
 when he cheats on his **diet**,
 and he always tells a **lie**
 when he eats a **piece** of **pie**.
 He has gained a lot of **weight**
 eating ice cream and cake –
 would he stick to his **diet**
 if he wasn't **quite** so **quiet**?



I wish I was an **alien** –
 I would be **quite quiet**.
 I would sneak up on a space ship,
 and then I'd learn to fly it.
 Oh, I wish I was an **alien**...
 I would really like to try it.



We all know words like BIG, BIGGER and BIGGEST. Well, look what happens with a word that ends in a “y” –



big



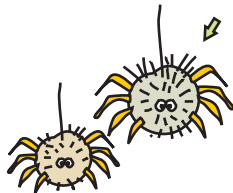
bigger



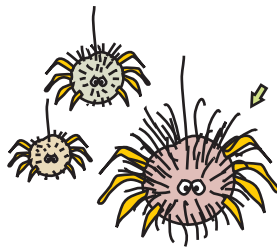
biggest



hairy

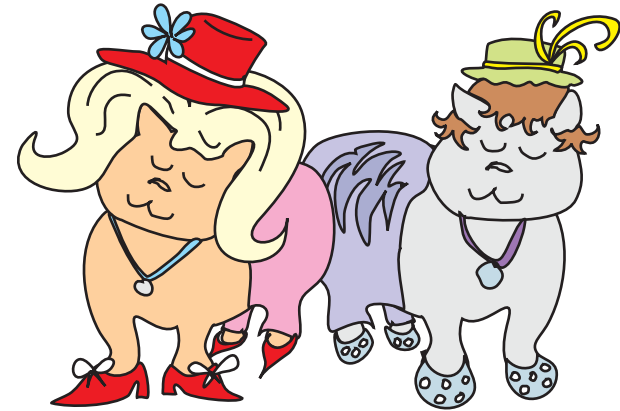


hairier



hairiest

hairy hairi + er
est



My cats like to wear

fancy, fancy pants

fancy, fancy wigs

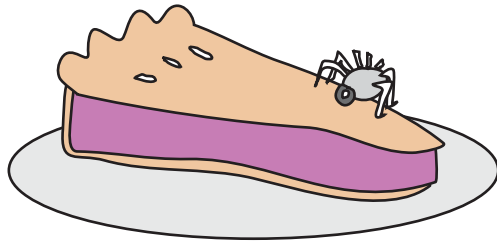
and even **fancier** hats.

Then they put on

the **fanciest** shoes...

but which cat is **fancier**?

How can I choose?



Two **hairy, scary** spiders sit on a wall.
 The **scarier** spider starts to crawl, but the
hairier spider, the **tinier** of the two,
tries to crawl but falls – boo, hoo.
 He falls onto a **piece** of **pie**,
 takes a **tiny** bite and says, “Oh, my!
 This is **tastier** than a **tasty** fly.
 Now all I want is **pie, pie, pie!**”



There are other words where two vowels both make a sound – words like “idea,” “giant” and “video.”



I had a good **idea** –
 my **idea** was **great**.
 So I tried to write it down,
 before it was too late.
 But by the time I got some paper,
 a pencil and eraser, my **idea**
 didn't seem so very, very **great**.

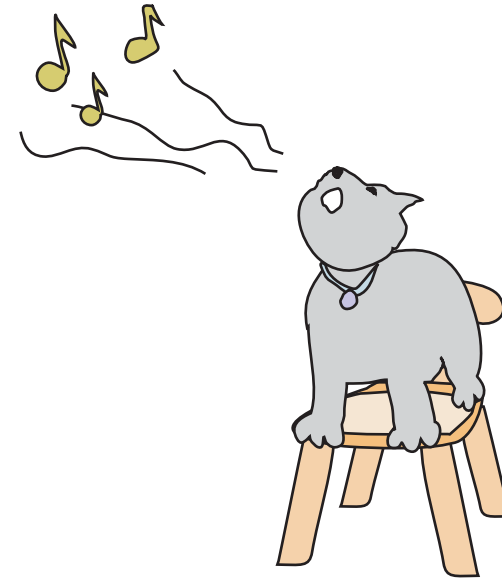


Leo the lion
is a **liar, liar, liar.**

He said he saw a bird
on a telephone wire.

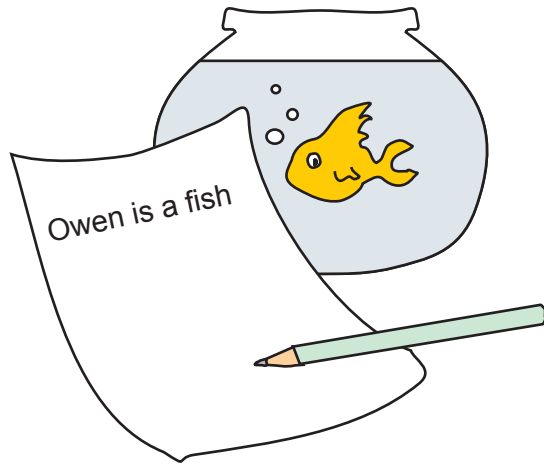
He said the bird flew up,
higher and higher,

then **Leo** the **liar**
said the bird caught on fire.



When I play the **piano**,
my cat sits on a **chair**,
and as my **giant** cat sings
her **wails** fill up the **air**.

It sounds so bad,
like a needle in the **brain**,
so I never play **piano**
so she never sings **again**.



I wrote half a **poem**
about my pet fish, **Owen**.

The **poem** was so short
 that it only had one line –
 a **poem** should be longer,
 but I didn't have time.

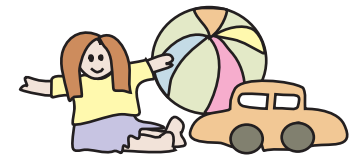


Sometimes the letter “y” makes such a small sound at the end of a word that you can hardly hear it, like in the words, “boy” and “toy.”

Listen and then say after me –



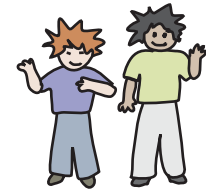
toy



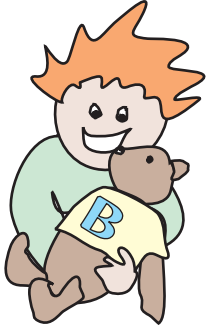
toys



boy



boys



When I was a tiny tot,
 I only had one **toy** –
 a fuzzy-wuzzy teddy bear
 with a big, blue “b” for **boy**.
 Now that I am bigger,
 I have a lot of **toys**,
 but my favorite **toy** for sleeping
 is my teddy-beddie **boy**.

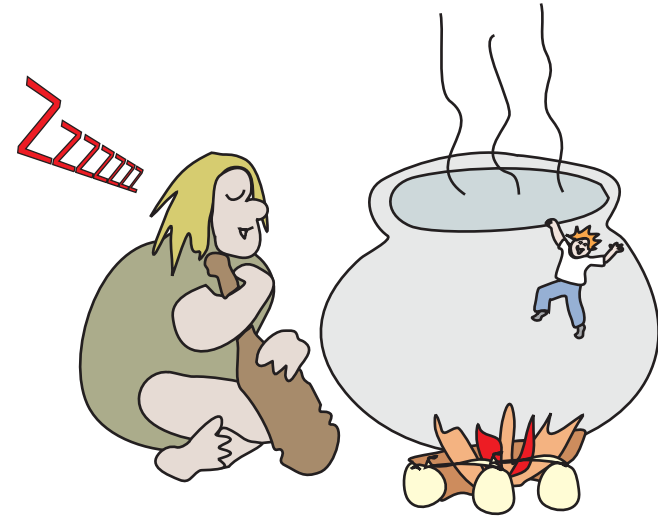
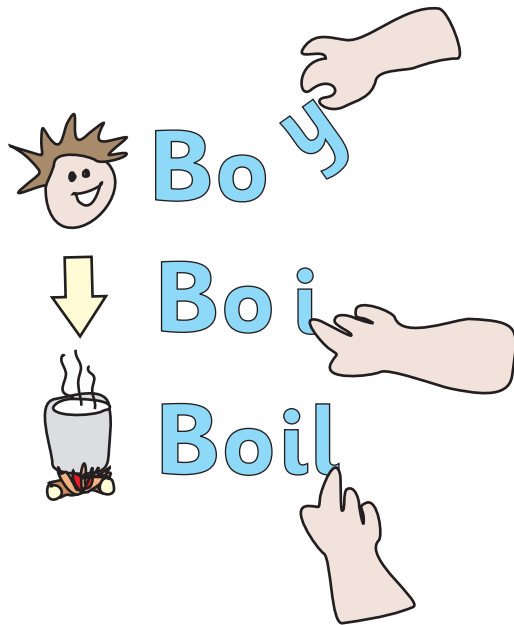


I do not like flies;
 flies **annoy** me.
 And I think that flies
enjoy to **annoy** me.
 I know that I
 would **enjoy** my pizza better
 if these flies would go **annoy**
 some other pizza-getter.

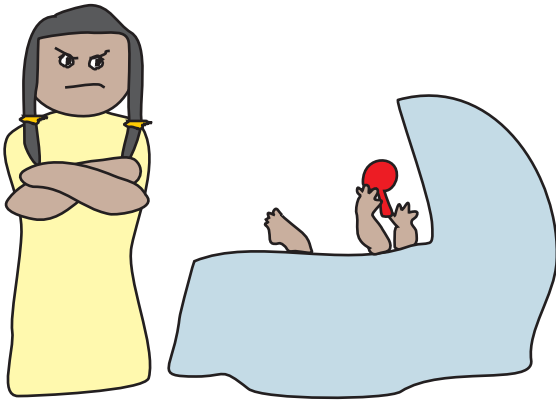


If the “oy” sound is in the middle of a word, the “oi” is spelled with an “i”.

For example, “boy” and “boil” sound the same, but are spelled differently – here’s how:



If a hungry monster
wants to **boil** a **boy**,
first he must catch a **boy**
and put him in a pot.
Then he must add water,
salt, and olive **oil**;
then the hungry monster
must wait for the **boy** to **boil**.



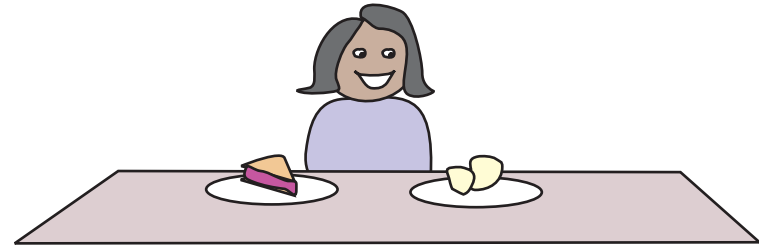
Everybody wants to **spoil**
 the brand new baby **boy**.
 It's baby this and baby that,
 baby powder, baby **oil**.
 But I know it's not a baby,
 it's really just a **toy** –
 I'm the only one who noticed
 when they brought home Baby **Boy**.



I have a **coin** in my pocket;
 I use the **coin** for tricks –
 I can make the **coin** spin around;
 I can make the **coin** do flips.
 Would you like to **join** me,
 and make a **coin** do flips?
Join me now, we can have some fun –
 I will show you all my tricks.



I like **noise** –
 lots and lots of **noise**.
 A drum and two sticks
 are the very best of **toys**.
 But, oh, how it **annoys** me
 when I'm told that I'm too **noisy**...
 so I make louder **noise**
 on my **toys** for **noisy boys**.



For dessert I have a **choice**
 of ice cream or pie.
 It's a very hard **choice**,
 and hard **choices** make me cry.
 But in my head I hear a **voice**
 telling me to make no **choice**.
 Yes, the **voice** tells me that I
 must have ice cream **WITH** my pie.



The letter “y” is also used in a few more words that we should learn, like the word “eye”. In the word “eye,” you can hardly hear the “y” – listen: “eye.”



I go to sleep with one **eye** open –
 I don't like the dark, and my light is broken.
 But I can't see a thing with
 the **eye** that is open.
 Is it because it is dark,
 or is my **eye** broken?



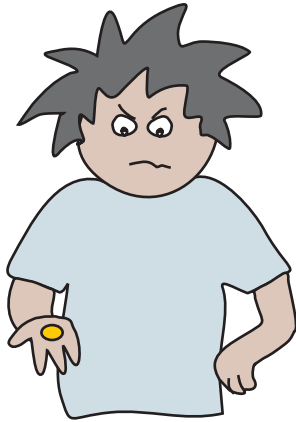
In the words, “bye” and “goodbye” you can also hardly hear the letter “y” –



I waved **goodbye**
 with a tear in my **eye**.
 I waved **goodbye**,
 and I said “**Bye, bye**.”
 But my nasty, old cold
 didn't go away – I think my cold
 is here to stay.



You can also hardly hear the “y” in the words, “buy” and “guy.”



What can I **buy** with one little penny?
 I can't **buy** much... I can't **buy** any
 ice cream, cake or soda pop...
 So what good is a penny?
 It can't **buy** a lot.



I went to the store to **buy** a cake
 but the **guy** at the store said the
 cake was late. But I know the **guy** was
 telling a **lie**, I could see the cake with my
 very own **eye**. So I asked the **guy**
why, why, why he would not let
 me **buy, buy, buy**? But the **guy**
 didn't answer – the **guy** ran away and I
 couldn't **buy** a cake until the next day.

The end

Don't forget!

If you have a moment (and if you are willing), email us with your comments. Thanks!

Feedback@ProgressivePhonics.com

COMING SOON



Book 15:

Syllables & Punctuation

Register to be notified
when released

Releases@ProgressivePhonics.com

Or visit us at

www.ProgressivePhonics.com