

Phonics Terminology Match -Up

Take a few minutes with your team to match the terms to the definitions below.

phoneme _____

grapheme _____

onset _____

digraph _____

schwa _____

morpheme _____

diphthong _____

rime _____

- a) The smallest meaningful unit of language. The individual sound. The word 'cat' is one of these.
- b) The vowel sound that is sometimes heard in an unstressed syllable and which most often sounds like /uh/ or the short /u/ in cup or short /i/ in hit.
- c) The smallest unit of sound in our spoken language. Pronouncing the word cat involves blending three of these /k/ /a/ /t/.
- d) A written letter or group of letters representing one speech sound. *Examples: b, p, sh, igh, eigh.*
- e) The first vowel sound in a word plus all the letters/sounds that follow (e.g. strong: rime is *ong*)
- f) *All* consonant sounds in a word that are before the first vowel sound (e.g. *the 'str' in strong*) *The "bl" in the word blue is one of these.*
- g) Two letters represent one phoneme: usually neither letter represents their phoneme (e.g. *th, wh, ch, sh, ph, and ck*)
- h) Pattern of vowels whose sounds glide together in the same syllable (e.g. *ou, oi, aw, oo, ow, oy*)