

Instructor Page - Hard and Soft 'g'

Directions: Review the concept that the letter 'g' makes two different sounds.

- In the word go, the 'g' sounds like /g/, which we call a "hard g."
- In the word page, the 'g' sounds like /j/, which we call a "soft g."

The sound 'g' makes depends on what letter comes right after it. The general rule is that if 'g' is followed by 'e', 'i', or 'y', it will be "soft" - /j/. A common word that is an exception to this pattern is 'get.'

All of these words from the Beginner Story have the letter 'g' in them. In some words, the sound that 'g' makes is /g/ ("hard"). In some words it is /j/ ("soft").

Print /g/ or /j/ above each letter 'g' below, depending on how it sounds in that word. (Provide assistance with decoding as necessary. Even non-readers can follow along and focus on the sound differentiation. Ask students to explain *why* it makes that sound.)

/j/
page

/g/
go

/j/
allergy

/j/
urgent

/g/
gone

/g/
drug

/j/
Gina

/g/
good

/j/
allergies

/g/
gave

/j/
generic

/g/ (an exception)
get

Student Worksheet – Hard and Soft ‘g’

Sometimes ‘g’ sounds like /g/, as in the word go. This is a hard ‘g’.
Sometimes ‘g’ sounds like /j/, as in the word page. This is a soft ‘g’.

If the letter that comes after ‘g’ is ‘e’ or ‘i’ or ‘y’, the ‘g’ will usually be soft.

Print /g/ or /j/ above each letter ‘g’ below, depending on how it sounds in that word.

page

go

allergy

urgent

gone

drug

Gina

good

allergies

gave

generic

get