

Instructor Page – ‘y’ as a vowel

Directions: Review the concept that the letter ‘y’ can function as both a consonant (as in the word ‘yellow’), and as a vowel (as in the word ‘fly’). It can also “team up” with other vowels to form a vowel team, (as in the words ‘play’ and ‘toy’). This lesson is about a single ‘y’ as a vowel.

- When a single ‘y’ is acting as vowel, it usually comes at the end of a word.
- In words with 1 syllable, a single ‘y’ at the end usually sounds like a long /ī/.
- In multi-syllable words, a single ‘y’ at the end usually sounds like long /ē/.

Even non-readers can follow along and listen for the sound at the end of each word.

*Print the sound the letter ‘y’ makes above it.*

/ ī /  
my

/ ī /  
try

/ ī /  
why

/ ī /  
cry

/ ī /  
sky

/ ī /  
fly

/ ī /  
by

/ ī /  
dry

/ ī /  
shy

*Scoop the syllables in these words from the beginner story. Print the sound the letter ‘y’ makes above it.*

/ ē /  
funny

/ ē /  
sadly

/ ē /  
happy

/ ē /  
Ricky

/ ē /  
quickly

/ ē /  
worry

/ ē /  
fifty

/ ē /  
story

/ ē /  
costly

/ ē /  
monthly

/ ē /  
body

/ ē /  
copy

/ ē /  
easy

/ ē /  
lady

/ ē /  
healthy

/ ē /  
laundry

/ ē /  
hurry

/ ē /  
Ruby

/ ē /  
policy

/ ē /  
pharmacy

/ ē /  
grocery

/ ē /  
bakery

/ ē /  
activity

/ ē /  
security

/ ē /  
emergency

/ ī /  
\*apply

/ ī /  
\*qualify

/ ī /  
\*deny

Student Worksheet - The Letter 'y' as a Vowel

- Look for a 'y' at the end of words.
- Words with 1 beat – try the sound of long / ī /.
- Words with more than 1 beat – try the sound of long / ē /.

*Print the sound the letter 'y' makes above it.*

my	try	why
cry	sky	fly
by	dry	shy

*Scoop the beats in these words from the beginner story. Print the sound the letter 'y' makes above it.*

funny	sadly	happy	Ricky
quickly	worry	fifty	story
costly	monthly	body	copy
easy	lady	healthy	laundry
hurry	Ruby	policy	pharmacy
grocery	bakery	activity	security
emergency	*apply	*qualify	*deny