

1

Short Vowel Sounds

The Unit words show ways to spell short vowel sounds. Each short vowel sound is spelled with one letter in most of the words.

- Spell /a/ with **a** as in **snack**.
- Spell /e/ with **e** as in **depth**.
- Spell /i/ with **i** as in **glimpse**.
- Spell /o/ with **o** as in **dock**.
- Spell /u/ with **u** as in **crumpled**.

/a/ spelled **a**

snack

album

plastic

rapid

absence

/e/ spelled **e**

depth

chess

The vowel sound /e/ is spelled **ai** in the word **against**.

/i/ spelled **i**

glimpse
bristle

/o/ spelled **o**

dock
bronze
nozzle
solve

/u/ spelled **u**

crumpled
publish
pulse

The vowel sound /i/ is spelled **y** in the word **system**.

The vowel sound /u/ is spelled **o** in the word **oven**.

2

Long Vowel Sounds

Some long vowel sounds are spelled with two letters. The Unit words show five ways to spell long vowel sounds.

- Spell /ā/ with **ai** as in **grain**.
- Spell /ē/ with **ea** as in **squeak**.
- Spell /ō/ with **oa** as in **foam**.
- Spell /ō/ with **ow** as in **stow**.
- Spell /ō/ with **ou** as in **shoulder**.

/ā/ spelled ai

complain

ailment

detailed

failure

grain

claim

brain

/ē/ spelled ea

breathe

squeak

disease

cease

release

In **aisle** the letters **ai** don't spell /ā/, but another long vowel sound, /ī/.

/ō/ spelled **oa**

coach
foam

/ō/ spelled **ow**

borrow
blown
growth
stow

/ō/ spelled **ou**

shoulder