The Quiet Beat

Find strong syllables and quiet vowel sounds in a story.

3.LF.8.e "Decode and encode multisyllabic words using knowledge of stress or accent to pronounce a word correctly, including the schwa sound when appropriate."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline parade, potato, sofa, and lemon, then circle the vowel that says "uh" in each word's quieter syllable and draw a line above its strongest syllable.

Our Tiny Parade

1. On Friday, our class held a tiny parade in the school hall. Each team made a cart from a wagon and a box. My team wanted a giant food cart, but our box was too small. Then Jada found one potato in her lunch bag. "Our star is ready," she said, holding it up like a prize.

2. We made a paper crown for our star and placed it on a soft sofa cushion. The cushion kept our star from rolling away. For a bright sign, we drew a lemon with a smile and taped it to the front of our cart. Our cart looked silly, but the other teams grinned when they saw it.

3. When the music began, our cart bumped over a crack in the floor. Our star tipped, and its crown slipped down over its eyes. Jada caught the cushion before it slid off. We fixed the crown and kept moving. At the end of the hall, the younger kids clapped and asked us to bring the cart back for another lap.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In parade, is the first or second syllable stronger? Which vowel letter says “uh”?

2. Split potato into syllables with hyphens. Capitalize the strongest syllable, then name the vowel letter that says “uh.”

3. Split sofa into syllables with a hyphen. Capitalize the strongest syllable, then name the vowel letter that says “uh.”

4. In lemon, which syllable is stronger? Which two letters spell the quieter ending that sounds like “uhn”?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one sentence using a two- or three-syllable word that is not in the story and has a quiet “uh” sound. Then write your word again with hyphens between syllables, capitalize the strongest syllable, and circle the vowel that says “uh.”

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline parade, potato, sofa, and lemon, then circle the vowel that says "uh" in each word's quieter syllable and draw a line above its strongest syllable. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In parade, is the first or second syllable stronger? Which vowel letter says "uh"?	**The second syllable is stronger. The first a says "uh."**
2	Split potato into syllables with hyphens. Capitalize the strongest syllable, then name the vowel letter that says "uh."	**po-TA-to. The first o says "uh."**
3	Split sofa into syllables with a hyphen. Capitalize the strongest syllable, then name the vowel letter that says "uh."	**SO-fa. The a says "uh."**
4	In lemon, which syllable is stronger? Which two letters spell the quieter ending that sounds like "uhn"?	**The first syllable, lem, is stronger. The letters on spell the quieter ending.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I put a comma after the first word.
COM-m(a)

In the sample, parentheses show the vowel the student would circle. Accept other words with a correctly marked stressed syllable and schwa vowel.