Long Vowel Detectives

Spell two-syllable words and sort their long vowels.

RF.2.3.d "Encode regularly spelled two-syllable words with long vowels."

NAME _____ DATE _____

OPEN SYLLABLE

The first syllable ends in one vowel. That vowel says its name.

bacon: ba-con

VOWEL TEAM

The first syllable has two letters that work together to spell a long vowel sound.

beaver: bea-ver

1 SORT

8 items

Part 1 SORT: Read each clue, write its two-syllable word, and circle OPEN or TEAM; Part 2 PROVE IT: Pick two words and explain how you knew where each belongs.

1. 1. A striped wild cat — OPEN TEAM

2. 2. A brush used to paint — OPEN TEAM

3. 3. The box where mail is delivered — OPEN TEAM

4. 4. A machine with arms that can do jobs for people — OPEN TEAM

5. 5. A place where travelers rent a room — OPEN TEAM

6. 6. A pot for making tea — OPEN TEAM

7. 7. Sheets you can draw or write on — OPEN TEAM

8. 8. Sounds made by singers and instruments — OPEN TEAM

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Part 3 MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new two-syllable word with an OPEN first syllable and one new two-syllable word with a TEAM in its first syllable.

OPEN _____

TEAM _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-syllable word with a vowel team in its second syllable, then underline the team.

ANSWER KEY # Long Vowel Detectives

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. A striped wild cat	**OPEN**	Tiger is ti-ger. The first syllable ends in i, which spells long i.
2	2. A brush used to paint	**TEAM**	Paintbrush is paint-brush. The team ai spells long a.
3	3. The box where mail is delivered	**TEAM**	Mailbox is mail-box. The team ai spells long a.
4	4. A machine with arms that can do jobs for people	**OPEN**	Robot is ro-bot. The first syllable ends in o, which spells long o.
5	5. A place where travelers rent a room	**OPEN**	Hotel is ho-tel. The first syllable ends in o, which spells long o.
6	6. A pot for making tea	**TEAM**	Teapot is tea-pot. The team ea spells long e.
7	7. Sheets you can draw or write on	**OPEN**	Paper is pa-per. The first syllable ends in a, which spells long a.
8	8. Sounds made by singers and instruments	**OPEN**	Music is mu-sic. The first syllable ends in u, which spells long u.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **OPEN**: tulip
- **TEAM**: seashell

Challenge: Sunday

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the long vowel and point to its spelling. For example, tiger has an open first syllable, ti, while mailbox has the vowel team ai in mail.