Syllable Sleuths

Look closely at the first syllable.

2.LF.10.a "Decode multisyllabic words with common syllable patterns, including open/closed, vowel-r, vowel-consonant-e, vowel teams, consonant-le, and schwa syllables."

NAME _____ DATE _____

OPEN SYLLABLE

The first syllable ends with a vowel. That vowel says its name.

ze/ro

CLOSED SYLLABLE

The first syllable ends with a consonant. Its vowel has a short sound.

muf/fin

1 SORT

8 items

Read each word, then circle OPEN or CLOSED for its first syllable.

1. robot — OPEN CLOSED
2. pilot — OPEN CLOSED
3. rabbit — OPEN CLOSED
4. napkin — OPEN CLOSED
5. paper — OPEN CLOSED
6. picnic — OPEN CLOSED
7. basket — OPEN CLOSED
8. hotel — OPEN CLOSED

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one OPEN word and one CLOSED word from Part 1. Write how you know where each word belongs.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new two-syllable word with an open first syllable and one with a closed first syllable.

OPEN _____

CLOSED _____

CHALLENGE

Write another two-syllable word, split it with a slash, and tell why its first syllable is open or closed.

ANSWER KEY # Syllable Sleuths

GRADE 2 · 2.LF.10.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	robot	**OPEN**	ro ends in o, which has a long sound.
2	pilot	**OPEN**	pi ends in i, which has a long sound.
3	rabbit	**CLOSED**	rab ends in b, and a has a short sound.
4	napkin	**CLOSED**	nap ends in p, and a has a short sound.
5	paper	**OPEN**	pa ends in a, which has a long sound.
6	picnic	**CLOSED**	pic ends in c, and i has a short sound.
7	basket	**CLOSED**	bas ends in s, and a has a short sound.
8	hotel	**OPEN**	ho ends in o, which has a long sound.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one OPEN word and one CLOSED word from Part 1. Write how you know where each word belongs.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **OPEN**: tiger
- **CLOSED**: kitten

Challenge: ba/by: ba is open because it ends with a vowel.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the first syllable and tell whether it ends with a vowel or a consonant. For example, ro ends in o, while rab ends in b.