Two Sounds of C

Sort words by the sound of c.

3.2.SE.1 "Students will use correct spelling when writing the following sounds in words: • diphthongs • schwa (i.e., /ə/) • silent letter combinations (e.g., knew, could, ghost) • hard/soft c, g (e.g., cover, celebrate, gorilla, general)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

HARD C	SOFT C
A hard c says /k/. It often comes before a, o, or u. cabin	A soft c says /s/. It often comes before e, i, or y. cider

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle HARD or SOFT for each word; for Part 2, choose two words and explain how you knew.

1.	camp	HARD SOFT
2.	corn	HARD SOFT
3.	city	HARD SOFT
4.	cup	HARD SOFT
5.	cent	HARD SOFT
6.	cell	HARD SOFT
7.	cereal	HARD SOFT
8.	coat	HARD SOFT

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

Write one new hard c word and one new soft c word.

HARD _____

SOFT _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with a hard c word and a soft c word; underline both words.

ANSWER KEY # Two Sounds of C

GRADE 3 · 3.2.SE.1

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	camp	**HARD**	The c says /k/ before a.
2	corn	**HARD**	The c says /k/ before o.
3	city	**SOFT**	The c says /s/ before i.
4	cup	**HARD**	The c says /k/ before u.
5	cent	**SOFT**	The c says /s/ before e.
6	cell	**SOFT**	The c says /s/ before e.
7	cereal	**SOFT**	The c says /s/ before e.
8	coat	**HARD**	The c says /k/ before o.

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)

- **HARD**: candy
- **SOFT**: ceiling

Challenge: The candle is in the cellar.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify the c sound or the letter after c. For example, corn has a hard c because c says /k/ before o.