

A Sound Sort

Listen for the long and short a sounds.

2.2 "Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking--beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

LONG A

In a long a word, you hear /ā/, like the letter's name.

cake

SHORT A

In a short a word, you hear /ă/.

map

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle LONG or SHORT for each word, then choose two words and explain how you knew.

1. train

LONG

SHORT

2. crab

LONG

SHORT

3. stamp

LONG

SHORT

4. paint

LONG

SHORT

5. snake

LONG

SHORT

6. chain

LONG

SHORT

7. sand

LONG

SHORT

8. clap

LONG

SHORT

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 word with a long a sound and one new word with a short a sound.

LONG _____

SHORT _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence with one long a word and one short a word. Underline the two words and label each one LONG or SHORT.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	train	LONG	The ai vowel team makes the long a sound, /ā/.
2	crab	SHORT	The a in crab makes the short a sound, /ă/.
3	stamp	SHORT	The a in stamp makes the short a sound, /ă/.
4	paint	LONG	The ai vowel team makes the long a sound, /ā/.
5	snake	LONG	The silent e helps a say its name, /ā/.
6	chain	LONG	The ai vowel team makes the long a sound, /ā/.
7	sand	SHORT	The a in sand makes the short a sound, /ă/.
8	clap	SHORT	The a in clap makes the short a sound, /ă/.

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)

- **LONG:** gate
- **SHORT:** glad

Challenge: A _crane_ _naps_. LONG: crane. SHORT: naps.

For Part 2, accept any two sorted words if the student correctly explains that long a says /ā/ and short a says /ă/. Part 3 answers may vary if each word has the correct a sound.