

Open and Closed Syllable Sort

Directions

1. Remind your child that a **syllable** is a word part with a vowel in it. Usually, a word has as many syllables as it has vowels. **Vowels** are a, e, i, o, u. The other letters (like b, c, d, f) are **consonants**.
 - **Cat** has one syllable.
 - **Picnic** has two syllables (pic-nic).
 - **Yesterday** has three syllables (yes-ter-day).
2. For this activity, practice sorting words with open and closed syllable patterns.
 - An **open syllable** ends with a vowel sound that is spelled with a single vowel letter (a, e, i, o, or u). Examples include me, e-qual, pro-gram, mu-sic.
 - A **closed syllable** has a short vowel ending in a consonant. Examples include hat, dish, bas-ket.
3. Cut out the two headers cards (**devote**, **calendar**). Place the two header cards face up in a row on a flat surface.
4. Cut out the word cards, shuffle, and place them in a stack.
5. Ask your child to select a word card from the top of the stack, read the word, and identify whether the underlined syllable has an open or closed syllable pattern (for example, photo, open syllable).
6. Ask your child to place the word card under the matching header card. Words with open syllables go under the header card, **devote**. Words with closed syllables go under the header card, **calendar**.
7. Repeat for each word in the stack.
8. Discuss the meaning of any unknown words.

Key

| <u>devote</u> (open syllable pattern) | <u>calendar</u> (closed syllable pattern) |
|--|--|
| <u>ph</u> oto | <u>ath</u> letic |
| <u>re</u> place | volun <u>tee</u> r |
| argu <u>me</u> nt | <u>ins</u> istent |
| <u>de</u> tergent | bask <u>e</u> t |
| imi <u>ta</u> tion | <u>che</u> mical |
| absol <u>u</u> te | intellig <u>e</u> nt |



devote

OPEN SYLLABLE

calendar

CLOSED SYLLABLE

header cards

word cards



photo

replace

argument

athletic

volunteer

insistent

basketet

chemical



detergent

absolute

imitation

intelligent