



Literacy and Intervention

WORD LIST

MEGAWORDS

2nd Edition

**Direct Instruction for Decoding, Spelling,
and Understanding Multisyllabic Words**

Grades 4–12



Megawords 5

oo = /o͡o͡/	ou = /o͡o͡/	ow, oa = /o͡/	ow, ou = /ow/	oy, oi = /oi/	ou = /ə/
afternoon	acoustic	approach	account	annoy	enormous
baboon	bouquet	borrow	allow	appoint	famous
balloon	caribou	charcoal	announce	avoid	generous
caboose	cougar	cocoa	around	*boisterous	marvelous
cartoon	routine	elbow	astound	boycott	nervous
cocoon	souvenir	fellow	compound	corduroy	numerous
foolish	uncouth	follow	council	destroy	
kangaroo		hollow	counter	embroider	
lagoon		marshmallow	county	employ	
maroon		meadow	discount	enjoy	
monsoon		minnow	drowsy	exploit	
mushroom		narrow	flounder	loyal	
platoon		oatmeal	flower	moisture	
poodle		pillow	fountain	ointment	
raccoon		reproach	lousy	oyster	
shampoo		shadow	mountain	poison	ou = /ũ/
typhoon		shallow	powder	rejoice	country
		sparrow	power	royal	couple
		tomorrow	profound	sirloin	cousin
		willow	pronounce	turmoil	double
		window	rowdy	turquoise	trouble
		yellow	scoundrel	voyage	
			surround		
			thousand		
			towel		
			tower		
			trousers		
			vowel		

*The word *boisterous* also contains the vowel combination *ou = /ə/*.

Vowel Combinations with o

Six vowel combinations start with o. Some of the combinations make more than one sound. Some of the sounds are spelled by more than one combination.

oa says /ō/ as in *road*

ow says /ō/ and /ow/ as in *owl* and *gown*

oi says /oi/ as in *coin*

oy says /oi/ as in *joy*

oo says /ōō/ as in *food*

ou says /ow/, /ə/, /ŭ/, and /ōō/ as in *mouse*, *touch*, and *you*

① Read these words aloud. Practice saying the correct vowel combination with o.

oa says /ō/

boat

oak

goal

toast

loan

ow says /ō/ or /ow/

own

snow

down

now

vow

oi says /oi/

soil

join

noise

void

foil

oy says /oi/

boy

coy

ploy

soy

toy

oo says /ōō/

goof

boot

mood

soon

roost

ou says /ow/, /ŭ/, or /ōō/

house

sour

tough

rough

youth

② Spell the six vowel combinations with o.

Use the chart to study the different sounds vowel combinations with o can make.

		Sounds				
		/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/, /ü/	/oo/
Vowel Combinations	oa	charcoal				
	ow	follow	drowsy			
	oi			rejoice		
	oy			enjoy		
	oo					foolish
	ou		around		nervous, country	bouquet

1 Circle the vowel combination with o in each word. Circle the sound(s) each combination can make.

famous	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/	foolish	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/
oatmeal	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/	power	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/
bouquet	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/	rejoice	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/
annoy	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/	charcoal	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/
discount	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/	monsoon	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/
follow	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/	numerous	/ō/	/ow/	/oi/	/ə/	/oo/

2 Fill in each blank with the correct sample word from the chart.

oy says /oi/ as in _____	oi says /oi/ as in _____
ou says /ə/ as in _____	ou says /ow/ as in _____
ow says /ow/ as in _____	ow says /ō/ as in _____
ou says /oo/ as in _____	oa says /ō/ as in _____
oo says /oo/ as in _____	ou says /ü/ as in _____

In working with vowel combinations, it is important to be flexible. Often a vowel sound can be spelled more than one way. First, learn the different ways a vowel sound can be spelled. Then if one spelling doesn't look right in a word, try another.

① Circle the vowel combinations with *o* that say /oo/.

balloon	souvenir	raccoon	bouquet
monsoon	lagoon	uncouth	acoustic

Two ways to spell /oo/ are _____ and _____.

② Circle the vowel combinations with *o* that say /ow/.

flower	mountain	vowel	council
towel	discount	account	drowsy

Two ways to spell /ow/ are _____ and _____.

③ Circle the vowel combinations with *o* that say /oi/.

poison	moisture	exploit	loyal
oyster	voyage	employ	embroider

Two ways to spell /oi/ are _____ and _____.

④ Circle the vowel combinations with *o* that say /ō/.

shallow	oatmeal	approach	cocoa
meadow	minnow	marshmallow	charcoal

Two ways to spell /ō/ are _____ and _____.

- 1 Say each syllable, and then read the whole word. Underline the vowel combination with *o* in the whole word.

ow and oa = /ō/

shal low	shallow
mead ow	meadow
min now	minnow
pil low	pillow
to mor row	tomorrow
marsh mal low	marshmallow
re proach	reproach
co coa	cocoa
ap proach	approach
char coal	charcoal

oy and oi = /oi/

voy age	voyage
em ploy	employ
cor du roy	corduroy
boy cott	boycott
tur quoise	turquoise
em broi der	embroider
tur moil	turmoil
ex ploit	exploit
a void	avoid

oo and ou = /ō/

ow and ou = /ow/	bal loon	balloon
drow sy	mon soon	monsoon
tow el	rac coon	raccoon
vow el	co coon	cocoon
lou sy	ba boon	baboon
coun cil	la goon	lagoon
pro found	ty phoon	typhoon
foun tain	kan ga roo	kangaroo
trou sers	sou ven ir	souvenir
an nounce	a cous tic	acoustic
sur round	bou quet	bouquet