

### Common Syllable Patterns

Syllable Patterns	Examples
<p><b>1. A closed syllable ends in at least one consonant; the vowel is short.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pan</li> <li>• shot</li> <li>• magnet</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. An open syllable ends in one vowel; the vowel is long.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• so</li> <li>• tiger</li> <li>• he</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. A vowel-consonant-e syllable ends in one vowel, one consonant and a final e. The final e is silent and the vowel is long.</b> (It is helpful for many students to learn this pattern because of its frequency in many one-syllable words.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make</li> <li>• pipe</li> <li>• shine</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. A vowel-r syllable has an r after the vowel; the vowel makes an unexpected sound.</b> (Vowels that are followed by r do not make their common long or short sound.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• car</li> <li>• dirt</li> <li>• turtle</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. A vowel pair syllable has two adjacent vowels. Each vowel pair syllable must be learned individually.</b> (The generalization <i>when two vowels go walking</i> is only reliable approximately half of the time.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sail</li> <li>• boat</li> <li>• feet</li> <li>• moon</li> <li>• boy</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. A final stable syllable has a consonant-l-e combination or a nonphonetic but reliable unit such as <i>-tion</i>. The accent usually falls on the syllable before the final syllable. Final stable syllables have unexpected but reliable pronunciations.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• puzzle</li> <li>• bubble</li> <li>• candle</li> <li>• contraction</li> <li>• picture</li> </ul>

Adapted from Carreker, S. (1999). Teaching reading: Accurate decoding and fluency. In J. R. Birsh (Ed.), *Multisensory teaching of basic language skills* (pp. 141-182). Baltimore: Brookes; Moats, L. C. (1995). *Spelling: Developmental disability and instruction*. Baltimore: York Press; Moats, L. C. (2000). *Speech to print: Language essentials for teachers*. Baltimore: Brookes.