

Alphagram Giant Letter-Sound Cards

Alternative Spelling Guide

Our Giant Letter-Sound deck contains one card for every *phoneme* (pronounceable sound) in the English language. Alternative spellings for the same sound appear in the solid area at the bottom of the card.

How can one sound be spelled so many different ways? The long o sound, for example, has seven different spellings. Many different roots and sources have come together to form our vast, complex language.

Some alternative spellings are easy and fun to teach: **kn** in 'knife' (a silent combination) sounds just like plain **n** in 'nest'; **ea** in 'dear' sounds the same as **ee** in 'deer'. But because sometimes it's hard to think of a word for every spelling, we've prepared this chart to assist you with your lesson plans.

<i>card #</i>	<i>letter</i>	<i>as in (icon)</i>	<i>alternative(s)</i>	<i>as in</i>
Short Vowels				
1	a	apple		
2	e	elephant	ea	bread (V-6– see NOTE below)
3	i	insect	y	gym, physical
4	o	octopus		
5	u	umbrella	o	wagon, come, money
Consonants				
6	b	bird		
7	c	car	k _k -ck	kin, basket cook (EC-4), think truck (EC-2)
8	d	dog		
9	f	fish	ph -ff -ph -gh	phone (BC-13), elephant cuff graph laugh
10	g	girl	gh -gue	ghost (BC-3) dialogue
11	h	house	wh	who, whole

NOTE: Alphagram's *Word Maker*™ set (see back page) includes individual flip-cards for more than 25 of the alternative spellings listed in this guide. The numbers in parenthesis on the chart, such as V-11 after 'bread,' refer to the corresponding cards in our *Level 2 Word Maker* packs: V=Vowel pack; BC=Word-Beginning Consonant pack; EC=Word-Ending Consonant pack.

<i>card #</i>	<i>letter</i>	<i>as in (icon)</i>	<i>alternative(s)</i>	<i>as in</i>
12	j	jacket	g(e) g(i) g(y) -dge -ge	gem gin gym badge (EC-2) page
13	k	key	c -ck -k -c*	camera truck (EC-1) cook, peak picnic
14	l	leaf	-ll	ball
15	m	mountain	-mb -mn	lamb column, hymn
16	n	nest	kn gn pn -gn	knife (BC-12), know gnome pneumatic sign
17	p	pig		
18	qu	queen		
19	r	rabbit	wr	write (BC-32), wrong
20	s	sun	c(e) c(i) c(y) -ce -se -ss -cy	cell cigar cymbal, bicycle nice sense kiss fancy
21	t	turtle	-bt	debt
22	v	van	-ve	have
23	w	wagon	wh	wheel (BC-31), where
24	x	box, exit	-cks	checks
25	y	yo-yo		
26	z	zebra	-se -ze -s -zz	choose sneeze has buzz

* not included on card

<i>card #</i>	<i>letter</i>	<i>as in (icon)</i>	<i>alternative(s)</i>	<i>as in</i>
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Consonant Digraphs

27	ch	chair	-tch	watch (EC-17)
28	-ng	ring		
29	sh	shoe		
30	th	thumb		
31	th	that	-the	bathe, mother

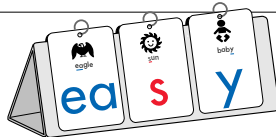
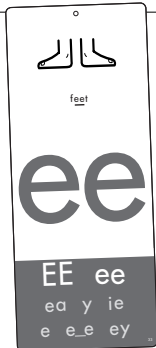
Long Vowels

32	long a	acorn	ae a-e ai ei eigh -ay -ey	maelstrom (rare spelling) cake, made rain (V-8) reindeer (V-9), veil eight, sleigh x-ray (V-10), play they
33	long e (ee)	feet	ea y ie e e-e ey ei*	eagle (V-13), bean baby (V-14) shield (V-15), grief, Barbie equal (V-11), evening, me Pete, complete monkey (V-16) receive
34	long i	ice cream	ie i-e y igh	pie (V-18), tried bike cry (V-19), eye light (V-20), high
35	long o	overalls	o-e oa -oe ow ou ough	cone boat (V-22), oatmeal toes (V-23) bow (V-24), owe soul dough
36	long u	unicycle	ue u-e ew eu	fuel, cue use, cute few feud

card # letter as in alternative(s) as in

Vowel Digraphs and Diphthongs

37	oo	book	u ou	bush, put could
38	oo	moon	u-e o ew u ui -ue ou*	rule who, to grew (V-28) flu, truth juice (V-29), fruit glue (V-30) soup (V-31)
39	ar	barn		
40	er	dancer	ur ir or ar ear	fur (V-36), urn shirt (V-34), irksome doctor standard early
41	or	corn	ore oar our oor	more soar four door
42	air	airplane	-are arr err ear	dare arrow terrible bear (V-38)
43	aw	saw	au ough augh	saucer (V-40), august cough daughter
44	ou	mouse	ow ough	frown (V-36), owl (V-41) cow bough
45	oy	boy	oi	coins (V-44)



Use Word Maker™ to spell words with the alternative spellings shown on the Giant Cards. Here's an "easy" word with two different spellings for the same sound!

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