# Shell Education 

## Sample Pages from

## Learning through Poetry: <br> Short Vowels



The following sample pages are included in this download:

- Table of Contents
- Introduction excerpt
- Lesson plan or sample chapter selection

For correlations to Common Core and State Standards, please visit http://www.teachercreatedmaterials.com/correlations.

Audio Included

## Short Vowels



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## How to Use This Book

## Teaching the Lessons

To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.
-Victor Hugo
The poems and activities in this book provide lessons for students who are moving from phonemic awareness to phonological awareness. For children still developing phonemic awareness, the lessons will encourage them to hear and play with sounds. For children ready for phonological activities, the lessons will encourage them to point out which letters and letter combinations make the sounds they hear in words. Additionally, the student activity sheets can allow children the opportunity to utilize their knowledge of sounds and print.
This book was designed with a foundation of integrating sound into the classroom. We hope you will find it helpful for students who are hearing and manipulating sounds to students ready to match sounds and print. Once you have selected a poem, you can decide which type of phoneme activity you want your students to engage in. There are five sound manipulation activities for every poem. These activities are a natural way to differentiate your instruction. You may have a small group of children who need additional practice with just sound matching. You may also create a small group of children ready to match sounds and print—phonics instruction. You can use the provided activity as well as the activity sheet to support these students. Your close observations of how the children participate in the sound manipulations will guide your decision to review the sound activities or expand their experiences into paper-and-pencil work.
As an optional way to enhance each individual poetry lesson, copy the poems for each student to keep as a personal, year-long collection in a pocket folder or a three-ring binder. Once you have completed the poem together, you may want to display it at learning centers, or on the bulletin board, to encourage the children to revisit it often.
The table on the following page provides an overview of the five sound manipulation activities that are provided with each poem in this book.


## How to Use This Book

## Teaching the Lessons (cont.)

This book presents 33 short vowel poems. The most important fact about vowels is that each syllable of a word has one vowel phoneme. Phoneme means sound unit, so we are not looking at the number of vowel letters we see, but the vowel phonemes we hear. Another way to think about this is for every vowel phoneme one hears, that is one syllable in the word. For example, in the word rope, one can hear one vowel phoneme, the / $\mathrm{o} /$, so there is one syllable. In the word amuse, one can hear two vowel phonemes, so that is a two-syllable word. Students need practice hearing vowel phonemes to eventually understand that they must include a vowel sound for each syllable they hear.

## Understanding the Difference between Consonants and Vowels

Experts generally agree that there are 44 sounds in our language. Of course that means there are more sounds than letters. But, what sets apart a consonant from a vowel? Vowels are designated as such because we do not restrict the airflowfrom our mouth when saying these sounds. Try this-say the word boil. Do you notice how your lips go together for the /b/ sound, then your mouth opens for the /oi/, and finally your tongue goes to the back of your teeth for the /I/ sound? This occurred because you shifted from blocked airflow, to unrestricted airflow, to blocked airflow or consonant, vowel, consonant.

## Teaching the Lessons (cont)




In the "Building Phonemic Awareness Skills" section, each sound manipulation activity suggests which words in the poem can be used for practice. Plan on spending about 10 minutes for each phonemic awareness activity and consider spreading the five manipulations over several days, reviewing the ones you already introduced.

Suggestions are made for those students ready to connect print and sound in the "Building Phonics Skills" section. These students can also be given the activity sheet to extend their experience working with consonant sounds in print.

Cross-curricular connections expand the use of a single poem into multiple contexts. The "Content Connections" section of the lesson helps relate the poems to other educational areas such as mathematics, social studies, or science, while the art section (located on the Digital Resource CD) provides connections in dance, music, arts and crafts, drama, and movement.

The "School and Home Connection" contains a letter for children's families, explaining the lesson's poem and suggesting an activity for completion at home. A copy of the poem should be sent home along with the letter. Each poem is provided within the lesson, ready for you to photocopy and enlarge as you see fit.

## Shorto Building Phonemic Awareness Skills

-ock

## Materials

- "At Four O’Clock" (page 54; Audio CD: Track 07)
- chart paper (optional)


## Procedure

Preparation Note: Distribute copies of the poem "Four O'Clock" (page 54) to students or display a large version of the poem on chart paper. Read the poem aloud or play the professional recording of the poem, and then proceed to the steps below.

1. Sound Matching-Say to students, "Listen to these three words from the poem: felt, shoe, four. Which have the same sound at the beginning? Listen to these three words from the poem: sock, clock, floor. Which have the same sound at the end?"
2. Sound Isolation—Ask students, "What is the first sound in the word sock? What is the first sound in the word rock? In dock?"
3. Sound Blending—Ask students, "What word is /s/ /ock/? What word is /r/ /ock/?"
4. Sound Substitution—Ask students, "What word would I make if I change /s/ to /l/ in sock? If I change /r/ to /d/ in rock?"
5. Sound Segmentation—Ask students, "If you stretch the word sock, what sounds do you hear? Stretch rock, what do you hear?"

## Building Phonics Skills

## Materials

- poem and activity page (pages 54-55)
- chart paper (optional)



## Procedure

Preparation Note: Distribute copies or display a large version of the poem "Four O'Clock" (page 54) and distribute Pick the Word (page 55) to students. Read the poem aloud or play the professional recording of the poem, and then proceed to the steps below.

1. Write the word sock on the board. Ask, "What word would I make if I change s to I in sock?" Erase the letter s and write the letter / to make the new word. Ask, "Were we right in our prediction about what the new word would be?"
2. Demonstrate this with other words such as dock, block, and shock.
3. Write the word sock on the board. Say, "Look across the word and tell me all the sounds you hear." Or say, "Stretch the sounds as you read the word."
4. Repeat the activity with the word rock. Have students complete the activity page for extra practice.

## Content Connections

## Math



## Materials

- "At Four O’Clock" (page 54; Audio CD:Track 07)
- large analog clock


## Procedure

1. Show students the clock.
2. Begin reading the poem, moving the hands to $1: 00$.
3. Continue with the poem, moving the hands to each time mentioned.
4. Discuss with students that there are times you do certain activities at school. Discuss the activities and times and set the hands to that time.

## Art

For an art activity supporting this lesson, please see the Digital Resource CD (artshortoock.pdf).

## School and Home Connection

## Materials

- "At Four O'Clock" (page 54)
- Family Letter for -ock (page 56)
- large paper clock drawn in the center of a large sheet of chart paper

Procedure

1. Attach the poem to the family letter.
2. When students return with their papers, ask them to tell you the time they do something with their family.
3. Draw a line from the clock to a blank area and write the activities near the correct time.
4. Discuss what they learned.

## At Four O'Clock

By David L. Harrison

This afternoon at one o'clock I felt a rock inside my sock.

When it was two, I took off my shoe.

When it was three, I cried, "Oh me!"

When it was four, I looked at the clock And sat on the floor.


Name: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

## Pick the Word

Directions: Pick the word to complete each sentence.

| sock | rock | clock | Lock | dock |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



1. $\qquad$ the door.
2. Put the $\qquad$ on your foot.

3. We tell time on a $\qquad$ .

4. The boat is at the $\qquad$

5. I see a big $\qquad$ .

