

The stuff that will get you ...



... If it hasn't already.

My book \_\_\_\_\_

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The **pyramid** at the front of the book lists the tricky phonics components. Older readers rarely review these components yet they are critical to successful reading. A clear understanding of how these letter / sound connections work within words should greatly strengthen the student's ability to deal well with challenging text. Practice with these components is placed between the pages of a continuing story in order to improve both phonics and comprehension skills.

The **Gorilla** look-alike sight word collection is placed at the front of the book as a checklist and easy review. The practice of these words within paragraphs is provided at the back of this book in the **Great Cat Words**; p.72-77.

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### Lesson three: Take control of sounds that go about in disguise:

#### **Rule: The ce, ci, cy teams always say s.**

Cover everything below the word you are reading. Tell your student any words he does not know. Take turns using the words in a sentence. Work through the practice exercises with him.

When e, i or y follow c, c always says the s sound:

cent          descent      once          city              decide          cycle      2<sup>nd</sup> c says k

center        decent        twice        cinder            excite          bicycle      2<sup>nd</sup> c says k

cellular      license      since        cinnamon        fascinate      tricycle      2<sup>nd</sup> c says k

Descent, descend: to go down or from an ancestor. Decent: conforming to standards of proper.

cy at the end of a word says see:

ge says j

fancy          icy              intricacy        accuracy        secrecy        emergency

mercy        spicy        fluency        currency        urgency        agency

Notice cce, cci says ks because the 1<sup>st</sup> c says k but the 2<sup>nd</sup> ce or ci says s:

accept          accident        success        vaccine        eccentric

access          accidentally    succeed        vaccinated      succinct

Succinct is from concise, meaning brief and clear: My mother gave me succinct instructions: get the job done.

When cc are together and e or i do not come next, cc make the k sound:

accuse          account        accommodate    occur          succumb

accurate        accustomed    accumulate    occupy        succulent

**You decide:** Put an s under each c that says s and a k under each c that says k:

a) center                      d) except                      g) concentrate                      j) decide

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b) cancel                      e) accept                      h) certainly                      k) privacy

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c) uncertain                      f) concern                      i) exciting                      l) secrecy

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Ten centipedes decided to ride their motorcycles to the corner grocery store to get themselves ice cream cones.**

Answers: a) s, b) k s, c) s, d) s, e) ks, f) k s, g) k s, h) s, i) s, j) s, k) s, l) k s



## Lesson five: A pair of double agents: gh and gn

**Rule: Both the gh and gn teams have two sounds.**

**F clue:** **gh** says **f** in a tiny family memorize this family since **gh** is silent in all other words

<u>uf</u>	<u>off</u>	<u>laf and draft</u>
enough    tough	cough	laugh    laughed
rough    slough	trough	laughing    laughter
		draught    draft

Snakes **slough** (sluf) their skins several times a year while they are young. Ducks like to hunt for snails in a nice marshy, boggy **slough** (slou zoo). Zorro never seems to suffer a mental **slough**.



**empty box clue:** **gh** is a silent team, the **ou** can say: long **o** as in **go**, **oo** as in **zoo**, or **aw**

<b>th</b> ough tho	<b>th</b> rough threw, zoo	<b>th</b> ought thawt	<b>th</b> orough thor o
<b>al</b> though altho	<b>th</b> roughout threw out	<b>th</b> oughtful thawt ful	<b>th</b> oroughly thor o lee
<b>d</b> ough do	<b>break</b> through	<b>th</b> oughtfully	<b>bor</b> ough bor o

long i					long a	aw sound		
<b>h</b> igh	<b>b</b> right	<b>l</b> ight	<b>r</b> ight	<b>s</b> traight	<b>w</b> eigh	<b>c</b> aught	<b>b</b> ought	
<b>s</b> igh	<b>d</b> elight	<b>n</b> ight	<b>s</b> ight	<b>e</b> ight	<b>n</b> eigh	<b>t</b> aught	<b>b</b> rought	
<b>t</b> high	<b>f</b> ight	<b>k</b> night	<b>s</b> light	<b>w</b> eight	<b>s</b> leigh	<b>f</b> raught	<b>f</b> ought	
	<b>f</b> light	<b>m</b> ight	<b>p</b> light	<b>f</b> reight		<b>d</b> istraught	<b>s</b> ought	
	<b>f</b> righ	<b>h</b> eigh	<b>t</b> igh			<b>o</b> nslaught	<b>w</b> rought	

<b>s</b> leight of hand    skills or magic with one's hands	<b>d</b> aughter	<b>h</b> aughty
<b>b</b> ough and <b>d</b> rought    ou as in out	<b>s</b> laughter	<b>n</b> aughty

The cat sat high on a **bough** of the oak tree. The **drought** caused the land to be dry and cracked. The canoe trip down a crocodile-infested river was **fraught** with danger. Our **plight** was made more perilous after we hit a rock and sprang a leak. My mother was **distraught** with worry. Sometimes large cities create smaller governing areas called **boroughs**. New York City has five **boroughs**: Queens, Bronx, Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Staten Island.

Take turns telling a sentence using each of these silent gh words:

<u>with suffixes:</u>	<u>as compound words:</u>
<b>highly</b> <b>frighten</b> <b>tighten</b> <b>lightening</b>	<b>headlight</b> <b>eyesight</b>
<b>brightly</b> <b>frightened</b> <b>tightening</b> <b>lightning</b>	<b>nightlight</b> <b>granddaughter</b>

As in granddaughter, compound words and added prefixes do not change the basic spelling of the root word: unnatural, unnoticed, reentered, reevaluate, reelect, disservice.      ©2004Maisner

## Lesson six: A pair of double agents: gh and gn

**Rule: Both the gh and gn teams have two sounds.**

**N clue:** g is silent when gn comes at the **beginning** or **end** of a word

gnat	gnarl	campaign	foreign	deign
gnaw	gnarly	champagne	sovereign	feign
gnash	gnarled	arraign	sovereignty	cologne

exception to rule

sign	resign	align	malign	*assignment	poignant
assign	design	benign	impugn	*arraignment	poignancy

**\*Adding an ending may or may not change the gn: resigned /resignation; sign / signature.**

**Sovereign**, say sov rin: supreme and absolute authority. **Feign**, say fan, long a, to pretend: The girl **feigned** illness to avoid an English test. **Arraign**: take before a judge. **Align** rhymes with **sign**, means to put things in line, into **alignment**. **Benign** refers to harmless. **Malign**: the intention to harm or to insult: The angry man **maligned** the good name of the muddy, jumping dog.

**Impugn**, say im pun, long u, to insult: The rude lady **impugned** the fine reputation of the skateboarder. (Impunity refers to not being held to account: Max ate all three pounds of M & Ms with impunity since his mother was not at home.) **Poignant**: to prick one's emotions.



When **not** at the beginning or end, **g** and **n** both say their normal sounds

dignity	diagnose	agnostic	ignorance	repugnant
indignant	diagnosis	ignore	ignite	pregnant
indignation	prognosis	ignorant	ignition	malignant

magnify	magnanimity	recognize	signal	insignificant
magnification	magnanimous	recognition	signify	signature
magnet	magnificence	resignation	significant	pugnacious

**Indignant**: angry about an insult or injustice. **Diagnose**: careful examination of a problem. **Prognosis**: a prediction for the future path of a thing. **Agnostic**: one who believes the human mind is not capable of knowing things beyond those it can see and hear. **Repugnant**: disgusting, repulsive. **Magnanimity** say mag nan im ite, **magnanimous**: very generous. **Pugnacious**: quick to fight. Exception to the rule since g is silent: **Poignant**, **poignancy**: **oi** and **oy** as in **boy**, say **poy** n yant: to prick the emotions: The **poignant** movie had the audience in tears.

There are not many **gm** words but the same rules apply with them:

**diaphragm** di a fram: a wall, as are the muscles between the lungs and the abdomen **phlegm** flem: mucus **enigma** in ig ma: mystery **stigma** **dogma** a belief **dogmatic**



