

Take a look at the eight, two-vowel blends in Flash Card Set 6. They are the vowel blends shown on the Jungle Journal in this expedition. Cut out the cards and arrange them in order on a table facing the reader. Listen to The Two Vowel Rule song and learn the words to it on track 10.
After you have learned the song, look at the first card with the "ai" blend.

1) The first vowel says its name - " $a$ ".
2) The second vowel says not one thing - it's silent!
3) "ai" says long "a"!

Continue with each card in the same manner. If you want, use your finger to cover up the second vowel when you are introducing the concept. It's like covering the mouth of the vowel so that it can't talk! When all the cards have been taught, start over with the first card again asking,
"What do these two vowels say?"
After several trials, your reader should be able to look at two-vowel blends and make the Two Vowel Rule connection, spontaneously.
"The Two Vowel Blends" expedition and the "Counting the Vowels to Determine a Long or Short Sound" expedition are important components in preparing for reading words with long vowel sounds. There is still one more part of the foundation for reading long vowel sounds. It is called The Silent " $e$ ". You and your reader will enjoy learning about the silent " $e$ " and singing another fun song in Reading Expedition 22.

## Taking a Closer Look - Sample Dialogue to Help Direct Your Course

Tour Guide: "You did a great job hunting for vowels in the last expedition. Today, we're going to learn more about words with two vowels. Let's take a look at some two vowel combinations. (Tour Guide puts flash cards on a table in front of student). We have a new song that is going to help us learn how to read these sounds. It's called "The Two Vowel Rule" song. I'm going to say the words of the song first, and then we'll listen to the music together. Okay?"


Reader: "Okay."
Tour Guide: "We'll listen to the song today until we both learn the words. Then, we'll try reading these cards. It'll be easy, once we know and understand the Two Vowel Rule.
(Later)
Tour Guide: "Let's take another look at these cards. (The Tour Guide places the cards on the table in front of the reader.) The Two Vowel Rule says that when there are two vowels in a small word, the first vowel says its name. (The Tour Guide points to the first card 'ai'). What's the first vowel on this card?"

Reader: " a "

Tour Guide: "So, it says its name, ' $a$ '. The second vowel, ' $i$ ', says not one thing. It's perfectly quiet. We can even pretend it is sleeping! Only the ' $a$ ' is awake and it is singing its name all over the place. In fact, the ' $a$ ' is so busy singing, it doesn't even see the letter ' $i$ '. (Tour Guide covers the letter ' $i$ ' with his or her finger). What does this vowel blend say?"
Reader: "It says 'a'."
Tour Guide: "Right! The 'ai' combination says 'a'! Let's do the same thing with the 'ea' combination. We'll figure it out together." (The Tour Guide continues to guide the reader in this same manner, until he or she is eventually able to "read" the sounds randomly, without any assistance at all.)

How do we count vowels? Begin by asking your reader the following questions:

Look at the word and count.

Identify the vowels.

## Say the vowel

 sounds.Tell me the word.

1. Can you tell me how many vowels are in this word? Is there one vowel or two?
2. What is (are) the vowel(s)? Can you point to it (them) and say its (their) name(s)?
3. What will the vowel sound be? (One vowel = short sound, two vowels = long sound.)
4. Can you tell me what the word is? You're such a good reader!

You can remember these questions by the

"It has one vowel, the vowel is " a " and the sound will be a short sound."
 The Two Vowel Rule

## When there are two vowels

In a small word,
The first vowel says its name.
When there are two vowels
In a small word,
The first vowel says its name.
And the second vowel says
Not one thing.
It just listens to the first vowel sing!
When there are two vowels
In a small word,
The first vowel says its name.
When there are two vowels
In a small word,
The first vowel says its name.


You will need Flash Card Set 6, The Two Vowel Rule song (track 10), patience, patience and more patience.

## Results to Achieve During Your Expedition

The Two Vowel Rule will be learned by the reader, and he or she will be able to read eight, two-vowel blends on flash cards presented by the Tour Guide.


## Find the Sleeping Letters!

When there are two vowels in a small word, the first vowel says its name. The second one doesn't say anything! Pretend that the second vowel in each of these two vowel blends is sleeping. You need to put that second vowel to bed! Draw a line from the second vowel to the bed. Say the sound that the first vowel makes (it says its name). The first one is done for you.



Draw a line from the two vowel blends on the left to the sound each one makes on the right. One of them is done for you.

## $\mathrm{ai} \quad \overline{\mathrm{a}}$ (long a)



## oe

ū (long u)

Ui
$\overline{\mathrm{e}}$
(long e)

## Underline the two-vowel blends in each of

 the words below. It's okay if you can't read them yet! You will learn to read them soon!

