



## Saying Irregular Vowel Combinations with "e"

You're  
reading  
with...



the giraffes!

### Getting Ready - A Broad View of the Landscape Before You Begin



Sometimes, the same irregular vowel combinations can have different pronunciations. A prime example of this is illustrated in this expedition. There are three different ways to say the "ed" combination. We've included a sample word next to each irregular vowel to demonstrate its sound. *The Reading Place* will offer even more examples, beginning on page 161.

As you introduce each irregular vowel combination, you will undoubtedly find that these sounds are often difficult to pronounce when they are in isolation, and not inside an actual word. Do not expect your reader to always pronounce these isolated sounds with absolute precision. The combinations are first presented in isolation, so that the reader has a visual recall of them when the vowel combinations appear in words. He or she can then identify their irregular sounds and blend them with other letters.

Follow the steps below, and then progress to Reading Expedition 43 to read the words that correspond with these irregular vowel combinations that include the letter "e".

- Step 1 Get your reader ready to learn each irregular vowel combination expedition by listening and singing along to the *Irregular Vowels* song found on track 17. The words are printed on the next page.
- Step 2 Practice saying each sound in Flash Card Set 17 with your reader. These sounds are also listed on the Jungle Journal.

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

**Tour Guide:** "This group of irregular vowels has some sounds that *look* the same, but are said in different ways. We're going to practice these sounds and then move along to Reading Expedition 43 where we can read the sounds in words. Okay?"

**Reader:** "Okay. I don't mind irregular vowels at all!"

**Tour Guide:** "Do you want to hold the flash cards?" We'll try to say them together, one at a time."



A giraffe's tongue is so tough that it can scrape the branches of leaves and thorns when eating, without getting cut or hurt.



### More Tips... for Tour Guides

According to a recent study, when adults interact with young children by talking, singing, and playing rhyming games, language and vocabulary is stimulated... and important foundations for learning to read are developed.





## Irregular Vowels

Irregular vowels: exceptions to the rule.  
 Irregular vowels: here's all you need to do:  
 Don't give up! Don't give up!  
 You will learn them in the end!  
 Irregular vowels:  
 They will be your irregular friends!

## More Tips... for Tour Guides



Books aren't the only things children like to read. You might want to stimulate your safari mate's interest in reading magazines, too. There are some great children's magazines on the market

today. How about a subscription to *Zoo Books*, *Ranger Rick* or *American Girl*? Your local library may have these and others to preview. A magazine subscription is also a wonderful item to put on you reader's holiday wish list and a particularly nice thing to receive from a grandparent or friend living in a different town or state. It's the gift that keeps coming all year long!

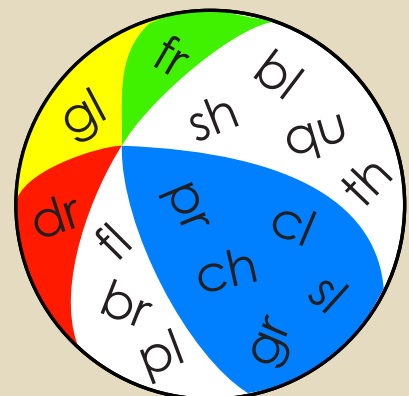
## More Fun... for Friends

### The Beach Ball Blending Game

Get an ordinary inflated beach ball to play this fun game. On the surface of the ball, write the consonant blends your reader has mastered with a black permanent marker. An illustration of what it should look like is featured below.

Next, play a game of "Consonant Blend Catch". Throw the ball back and forth. Look at the blend that each hand covers as it is caught. The goal is to try and think of words that begin with the consonant blends "caught" with each throw. This game can be played inside or outside. It can also be played with any number of players. You can vary the rules, if you wish, offering the person who catches the ball the option of thinking up a word for only one of the consonant blends under his or her hands. Here is the list of consonant blends you should use. You may write each of them more than once, if necessary, to cover the ball.

sh ch th bl br cl  
 dr fl fr gl gr pl pr  
 sl sp st tr tw qu



## What You'll Need to Pack for the Safari



You will need Flash Card Set 17, the *Irregular Vowels* song (track 17) and lots of energy to keep the momentum going!

## Results to Achieve During Your Expedition



The reader will have an understanding of what an irregular vowel is, and will be able to independently demonstrate how to pronounce the following irregular vowel combinations: "ed", "ew", "ey", "ea", "eigh".

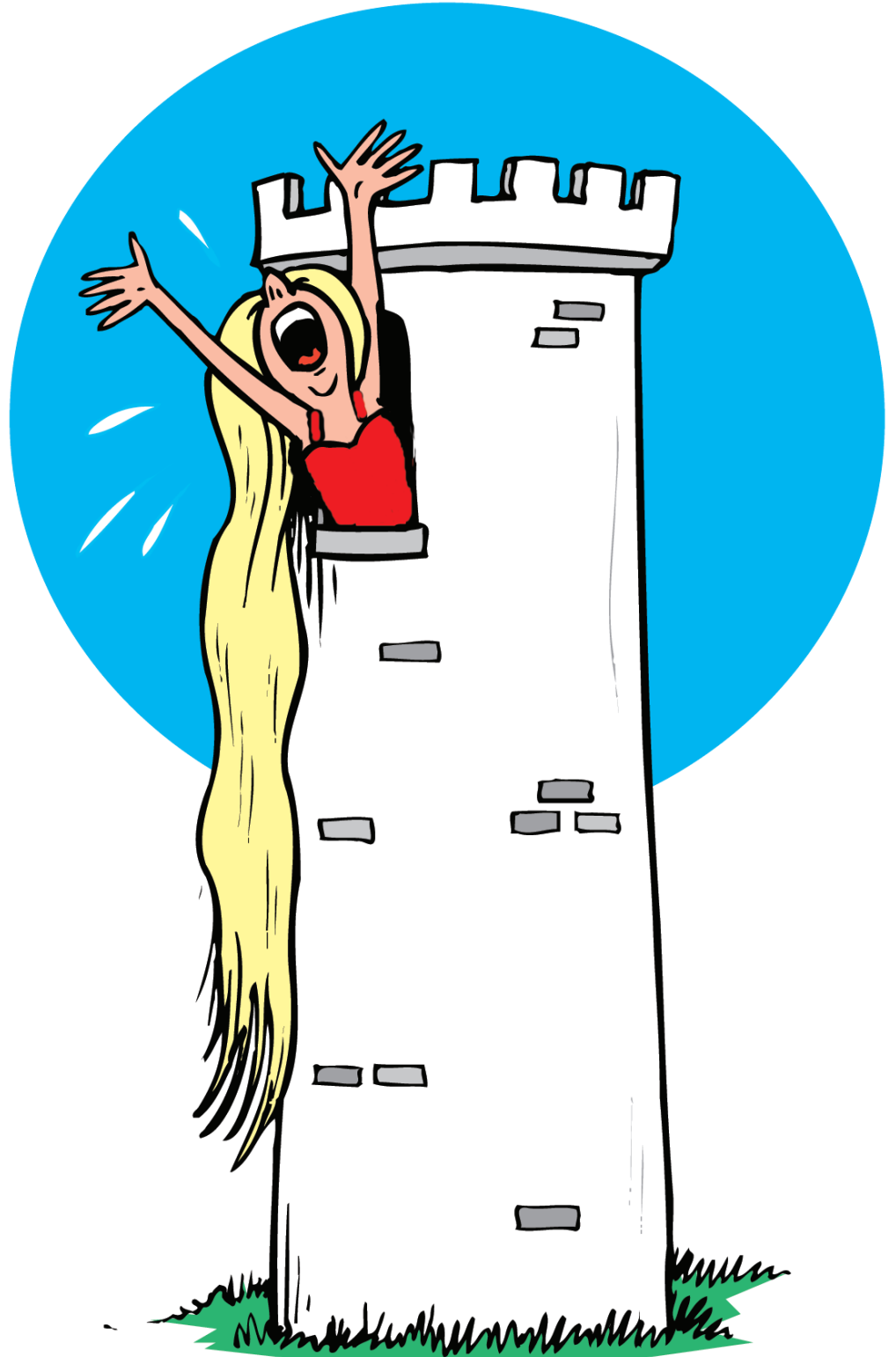
### Jungle Journal

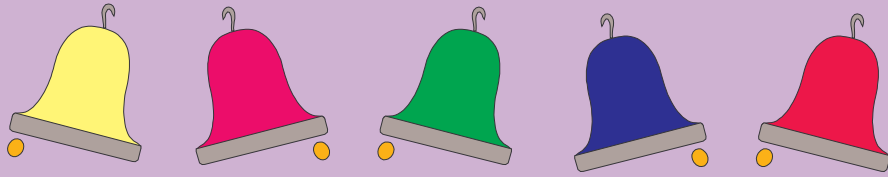
Accomplished with Excellence	Expedition Activities:
	Reader imitates "ed" (as in "landed") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ed" (as in "spilled") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ed" (as in "missed") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ew" (as in "new") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ey" (as in "prey") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ey" (as in "key") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "ea" (as in "bread") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader imitates "eigh" (as in "sleigh") sound, modeled by the Tour Guide
	Reader says "ed" (as in "landed") sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "ed" (as in "spilled") sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "ed" (as in "missed") sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "ew" sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "ey" (as in "prey") sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "ey" (as in "key") sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "ea" sounds from flash card independently
	Reader says "eigh" sounds from flash card independently
	Reader listens to the <i>Irregular Vowels</i> song on track 17
	Reader completes Funsheets (instructions to be read by Tour Guide)
	Reader draws a star on the Safari Success Trail, in space number 42 (check off Jungle Journal in the backpack to advance)



Read the sentence below, and  
draw someone to help Rapunzel.

Her hair grew and grew and grew!

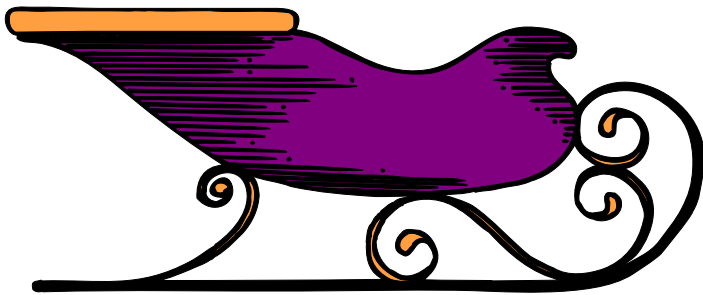




Do you know the song entitled, *Jingle Bells*? It's a popular winter-time song!

"Jingle bells, jingle bells,  
Jingle all the way!  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open \_\_\_\_\_."

The word that completes the song has the irregular vowel grouping "eigh". It sounds like long "a" doesn't it? Here's a picture of a sleigh. Can you draw one horse to pull it?



Look at what this baker has in his hands. It has the irregular sound of "ea". Listen to the irregular sound of "ea" as you say the name of this yummy food. You may color the picture if you'd like.



bread