Syllable Sort

Directions

1. Remind your child that a **syllable** is a word part with a vowel in it. Usually, a word has as many syllables as it has vowels. **Vowels** are a, e, i, o, u. The other letters (like b, c, d, f) are **consonants**.
   - **Cat** has one syllable.
   - **Picnic** has two syllables (pic-nic).
   - **Yesterday** has three syllables (yes-ter-day).

2. Remind your child that there are different syllable types using this table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syllable Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Open**      | A syllable ending with a vowel sound that is spelled with a single vowel letter (a, e, i, o, or u). | me  
pro-gram  
mu-sic |
| **Closed**    | A syllable ending in one or more consonants and a short vowel sound spelled with one vowel. | hat  
dish  
bas-ket |
| **VCe**       | V stands for vowel, C stands for consonant, and e is the silent e at the end of a syllable or word.  
A syllable pattern that ends in silent e, which makes the vowel before it a long sound (say its name). | stripe  
shine  
bake |
| **Vowel Team**| A syllable that has multiple letters spelling the vowel sound. | tooth  
pain  
train-er  
neighbor |
| **Vowel-r**   | A syllable that has at least one vowel followed by an r. The r always comes directly after the vowel (ar, er, ir, or, ur). | corn  
bird  
mar-ket |

3. Cut apart header cards and place face up in a row.
4. Cut apart word cards and place face down in a stack.
5. Ask your child to:
   - Select the top card from the stack and read it. Help your child break the word into smaller parts to read, as needed.
• Identify the syllable type of the underlined syllable.

“Vowel-r syllable.”

• Place the word card in the column under the matching syllable type.

• Continue until all cards are sorted. For extra practice, have your child point to and read the words in each column.

• Discuss the meaning of any unknown words.

Example
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>devote (open syllable)</th>
<th>mechanic (closed syllable)</th>
<th>telescope (VCe syllable)</th>
<th>wheelchair (vowel team syllable)</th>
<th>intersect (vowel-r syllable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>detergent</td>
<td>calendar</td>
<td>microphone</td>
<td>entertain</td>
<td>participate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>absolute</td>
<td>magnify</td>
<td>trademark</td>
<td>speaker</td>
<td>passenger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imitation</td>
<td>chemical</td>
<td>limelight</td>
<td>disagreed</td>
<td>favorite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identity</td>
<td>forgetful</td>
<td>illustrate</td>
<td>beautiful</td>
<td>surgery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Sunscreen | abs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>imitation</td>
<td>identity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>calendar</td>
<td>magnify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chemical</td>
<td>forgetful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>microphone</td>
<td>trademark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
limelight  illustrate
entertain  speaker
disagreed  beautiful
participate  passenger
favorite  surgery

word cards