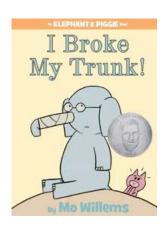
I Broke My Trunk!

Written and Illustrated by Mo Willems



Description:

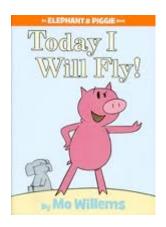
Gerald has a long story to tell about why he has a bandage on his trunk.

Connections:

Pick the word "broke" from the title to illustrate how the silent "e" makes the vowel "o" flip from a short to a long sound. Making up a story to illustrate a concept can give children a hook to hang their new learning upon. In this case, the "e" could be an elephant named Gerald. Write the word "broke" in large letters on the board and draw Gerald's glasses inside the top part of the "e." Explain that the bottom part is now his trunk. Turn the "o" into Piggie by adding two pointy ears, a snout and eyes inside. Share that while Gerald was standing in line he wanted to say hello to his friend Piggie. He quietly reached over the "k" and tapped Piggie on her head. She was so surprised she flipped and said "o." In the future you can remind children that Gerald always likes to tap the vowel on the shoulder and flip the sound.

Today I Will Fly!

Written and Illustrated by Mo Willems



Description:

Piggie is determined to fly! When you get a little help from your friends, Piggie finds out that you can do most anything.

Connections:

After reading the book, use the word "fly" from the title to illustrate how the letter "y" sometimes acts like a vowel. Start by writing the word "fly" on the board and pronounce it phonetically...using the consonant sound for "y" instead of the "i" sound. Complain that it just don't sound right. Ask the children for suggestions. When someone reads the word correctly reinforce that in fact that does make sense. Discuss how the letter "y" acts like a vowel sometimes and flips to a long "i" sound.

Next write a list of words on the board minus the final "y." Add the "y" and have the children read the new word.

my	try	buy	sky	dry	cry
why	by	guy	spy	shy	sly

Share with the children that some of the time, short, one-clap (syllable) words that end in "y" are pronounced using the long "i" sound.

I Am Invited to a Party!

Written and Illustrated by Mo Willems



Description:

When Piggie is invited to a party, Gerald helps find the perfect outfit to wear.

Connections:

The word "party" in the title will show students that often a two-clap (syllable) word, that ends in the letter "y," is pronounced with the long "e" vowel sound.

Repeat the lesson format from the, Today I Will Fly, book substituting the "e" for "i" sound. Begin by writing "party" on the board, mispronounce, ask students for suggestions, then explain one application of "y" using two-part words.

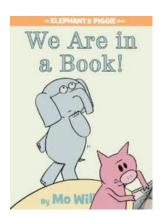
Here is a list of words that illustrate the rule.

party	happy	fancy	beauty	army	body
marry	study	hurry	busy	carry	baby

It is important to reinforce that words must make sense within a sentence. There are many exceptions to these rules so students need to continue to "flip" until the right sound is discovered.

We Are in a Book!

Written and Illustrated by Mo Willems



Description:

Piggie and Gerald are delighted to discover they are in a book and readers are listening in.

Connections:

Write "book," "boot" and "door" on the board. Ask the children what they notice about the three words. As students catch on to the double "oo's," read them slowly to contrast the sound between the words. Next, help the children learn the variations by teaching key words for each sound through a simple chant.

The book bounced on my boot and ran out the door.

All three pronunciations are represented to use as a reference. Children can flip the individual double "oo" sounds until the correct one fits the meaning of the word.

Pigs Make Me Sneeze

Written and Illustrated by Mo Willems



Description:

Why is Gerald sneezing around his friends Piggie and Cat? Is he allergic? Who's next?

Connections:

Display a letter written from Piggie to the children on the document camera. As you read draw a circle around each double ee.

Greetings!

Wish we could meet you this week. But Gerald's sneezing, wheezing and feeling quite sick. Instead...we sat by a tree, along with the bees and wrote a poem about double ee's.

A Wee Poem

Say e, say e

When you see a double ee

Oh gee, tee-hee,

I do love double ee's.

Filled with glee,

Piggie

Remind the children that sometimes we have to flip vowel sounds from their short to long sounds to make sense. Read the letter using the short sound for all the e's and then again using the long e sound. Ask the children which reading made sense.