

Schwa

Generalization In many words, the schwa in an unaccented syllable gives no clue to its spelling: **above**, **family**, **melon**.

Word Sort Sort the list words by the letter that stands for the schwa sound. Use a dictionary to help.

- Spelling Words**
1. above
 2. another
 3. upon
 4. animal
 5. paper
 6. open
 7. family
 8. travel
 9. afraid
 10. nickel
 11. sugar
 12. circus
 13. item
 14. gallon
 15. melon

<p>a</p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p>	<p>o</p> <p>10. _____</p> <p>11. _____</p>
<p>e</p> <p>4. _____</p> <p>5. _____</p> <p>6. _____</p> <p>7. _____</p> <p>8. _____</p>	<p>u</p> <p>12. _____</p> <p>13. _____</p>
<p>i</p> <p>9. _____</p>	<p>a and e</p> <p>14. _____</p> <p>i and a</p> <p>15. _____</p>

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Home Activity Your child is learning to spell words with the schwa sound (an unstressed vowel sound such as the *a* in *above*). To practice at home, have your child say the word, study it, spell it with eyes closed, and then write it.

Name _____

Family Times

Summary

Happy Birthday Mr. Kang

Mr. Kang came to the United States 50 years ago, and he still misses his old home. Newly retired, he spends his days writing poetry, reading *The New York Times*, and caring for his caged bird. He enjoys the company of his grandson, Sam, and visits with friends and other bird-lovers from China every Sunday morning. One day, early in his retirement, he reflects on his feelings of freedom after working so hard for so long. At his grandson's urging, he sets his bird free. Sam regrets the loss of the bird, but they are both comforted to find the bird waiting at home. Mr. Kang sees another parallel between himself and the bird. They can both fly free, but they chose this new place as their home.

Activity

What Are Your Freedoms? Together, talk about the ways in which you enjoy freedom and the responsibilities associated with it. Are they good responsibilities? How do you benefit from them?

Comprehension Skill

Cause and Effect

A **cause** is why something happens. An **effect** is what happens. A **cause** may have more than one effect. An **effect** may have more than one cause.

Activity

Kitchen Cause and Effect Go into the kitchen and look for appliances or materials that could act as a cause for some effect. For example, a freezer could cause water to turn to ice. Yeast can cause bread dough to rise. Take turns looking for five examples of causes and their effects.

Lesson Vocabulary

Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *Happy Birthday Mr. Kang*. Practice using these words.

Vocabulary Words

bows a bending of the head or body in greeting, respect, worship, or submission

chilly unpleasantly cool

foolish without good sense; unwise

foreign of or from another country

narrow not wide or broad

perches sits or rests on something

recipe a list of ingredients and instructions for making something to eat

Conventions

Abbreviations

Abbreviations of days and months begin with a capital letter and end with a period. Most abbreviations of days and months are the first three letters of the day or month.

Activity

Match Up Write words and abbreviations on index cards, such as *Sunday* and *Sun.* and *April* and *Apr.* Mix up the cards and arrange them facedown on a table. Players take turns flipping over two cards to find a match. If a match is made, the player may keep the cards and try again. If no match is made, the player turns the cards facedown again, and play passes to the next player. Play continues until all the cards are matched. This game can also be played by only one person.

Practice Tested Spelling Words

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Name _____

Cause and Effect

- A **cause** is why something happens. An **effect** is what happens.
- A **cause** may have more than one **effect**.
- An **effect** may have more than one **cause**.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Anthony was just a kid—a kid who had to make a big decision. Anthony’s aunt wanted him to visit her in Italy because it was her 50th birthday. His parents kept telling him how wonderful it would be for him. “You’ll make your aunt so happy!” they said. But Anthony didn’t like to travel, so he was very nervous. Besides, how could he leave his family for two whole months?

Because Anthony was so worried, he wasn’t sleeping well and he lost his appetite. Finally, he told his parents that he had decided not to go. As soon as he said that, he was calmer and happier. He felt better right away because he knew he had made the right decision!

1. Why did Anthony’s aunt want him to come to Italy?

2. When Anthony wasn’t sleeping well or eating, what was the cause?

3. What was the effect of Anthony’s decision?

4. Underline clue words for causes and effects.



Home Activity Your child learned about cause and effect. Think of simple experiments to do with your child to demonstrate cause and effect, such as putting an ice cube in the sunshine. Help your child determine the cause (sunshine) and the effect (melted ice cube).

Name _____

Literary Elements • Theme

- To identify the **theme** of the story, or the story’s message, do the following:
 Identify the main character and the main problem.
 Follow how the character solves the problem.
 Decide what the character learns from solving the problem.
 Figure out the story’s message.

Directions Read the following story. Then fill in the diagram below.

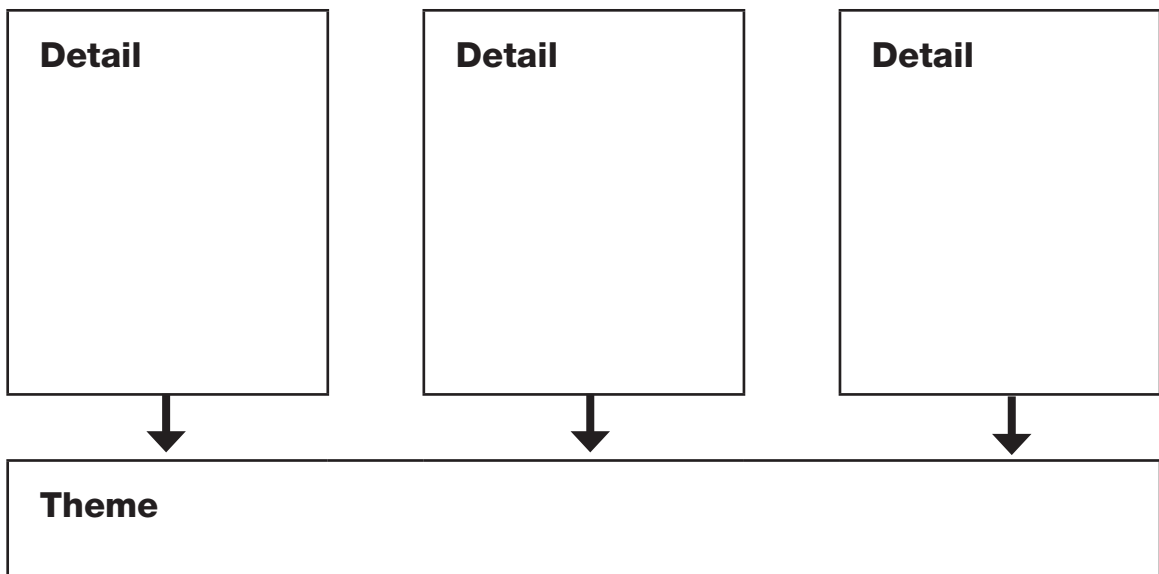
The emperor of China loved the song of birds. His people combed the forests to capture the birds with the loveliest voices. They would bring the birds to the palace to win the emperor’s favors.

The bird with the most beautiful song of all was the little brown nightingale. The emperor loved her song but did not like her plain brown feathers. He asked the jeweler to make a more beautiful nightingale. The jeweler made a mechanical musical bird of gold, rubies, and diamonds. The emperor was delighted with the music box, which glittered and gleamed. When the real

nightingale saw and heard the music box, she flew quietly away.

One day the music box wore out, and would not play any more. The emperor grew very ill. As he lay dying, he heard the sweet and beautiful song of the real nightingale again. She had flown back to the palace to cheer the emperor with her song.

The emperor apologized to the nightingale. The nightingale promised to return every day and sing to him until he was well again.



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Home Activity Your child identified a story’s theme. Read a folk tale or fairy tale with your child. Discuss the story’s theme. Have your child identify details that explain the theme.

Abbreviations

Directions Write the answer to each question. Use abbreviations correctly.

1. What are your initials?

2. What is the abbreviation for the month in which you were born?

3. What are the titles and last names of the adults in your family?

4. What is the abbreviation for your busiest day of the week?

5. What is the abbreviation for the month in which your favorite holiday takes place?

6. What is the abbreviation for today's day of the week?

Directions Write two sentences about two adults besides your parents who have taught you important skills or lessons. Use at least two abbreviations.



Home Activity Your child learned how to use abbreviations in writing. With your child, list some adults who live in your neighborhood. Have your child write their names, using the correct abbreviations for their titles.

Name _____

Vowel Sounds in *moon* and *foot*

Directions Each word below contains either the vowel sound heard in *moon* or the vowel sound heard in *foot*. Underline the letter or letters that stand for the vowel sound. Then write *moon* or *foot* on the line.

1. hook _____
2. moose _____
3. glue _____
4. suit _____
5. flew _____
6. wood _____
7. school _____
8. push _____

Directions Choose a word from above that completes each sentence.

9. Carla nailed a coat _____ to the back of the door.
10. Dan took the shortest route to _____ .
11. You can use _____ to fix the broken vase.
12. We need some dry _____ to build a fire.
13. The airplane _____ above the clouds.
14. We spotted a _____ drinking from the lake.
15. Dad stopped by the tailor's to pick up his _____.
16. Rosa likes to _____ her brother on the swing.



Home Activity Your child identified and wrote words with the vowel sounds in *moon* and *foot*. Have your child write riddles using words with the vowel sounds in *moon* and *foot*. Try to guess each answer after your child reads each riddle to you.

Schwa

Spelling Words

above	another	upon	animal	paper
open	family	travel	afraid	nickel
sugar	circus	item	gallon	melon

Crossword Puzzle

Write list words in the puzzle.

Across

- 2. something sweet
- 4. move from place to place
- 6. a large fruit
- 8. five cents

Down

- 1. You write on this.
- 3. four quarts
- 5. overhead
- 7. one more

Word Puzzle The stars in the words below all stand for one vowel. The hearts stand for a different vowel. Can you crack the code? Write the words.

- 9. ♥ f r ♥ * d _____
- 10. ♥ n * m ♥ l _____
- 11. f ♥ m * l y _____
- 12. * t e m _____



Home Activity Your child has been learning to spell words with the schwa sound. Help your child make up a code and use it to write list words.

Name _____

Cause and Effect

- A **cause** is why something happens. An **effect** is what happens.
- A **cause** may have more than one **effect**.
- An **effect** may have more than one **cause**.

Directions Read the following passage.

Rosa wanted to learn how to draw and paint, so she signed up for an art class. The first day, the students tried out all kinds of pens, pencils, and chalk, because the teacher said they weren't ready for paintbrushes yet. The class was fun because everyone helped each other

and shared their ideas. At the end of class, the teacher told everyone to bring colored pencils next time. Because of that, Rosa bought a set of pencils and sharpened each one. Rosa knew she was going to learn a lot about art and she was really excited.

Directions Fill in the empty boxes in the two diagrams below.

CAUSES: Why did it happen?

EFFECTS: What happened?

The students weren't ready to paint.

1.

2.

The art class was fun.

3.

4.



Home Activity Your child learned about cause and effect. Build a tower of blocks with your child. Have him or her pull out one of the bottom blocks and watch what happens. Have your child tell you why it happened (the cause) and what happened (the effect).

Name _____

Abbreviations

Directions Write each sentence correctly. Use correct capitalization and periods for abbreviations.

1. Dr and mrs Hartz have many beautiful pet birds.

2. They will display the birds at the home of mr and Ms Santos.

3. I am going to see the birds with my friend c. j. Fox.

4. You can buy tickets at G B Watkins Department Store.

Directions The following research notes have initials and abbreviations written incorrectly. Write each note. Correct mistakes in initials and abbreviations.

5. John j Audubon—bird painter

6. Born apr 1785

7. Wrote book about animals with J Bachman

8. Died jan 1851



Home Activity Your child reviewed abbreviations. Scan a newspaper with your child and have your child identify abbreviations.