

LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series — Phonics

picturebookenglish.com

Category	Phonics	Title	Phonics Book 11 – Word Maze Game
Ages	4-7	Theme	Silent E — Long Vowel Words (CVCe Pattern)

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

Your child is ready to explore long vowel sounds! In this book, children practise four-letter words that end with a silent 'e' — the CVCe pattern. The silent 'e' at the end makes no sound itself, but it changes the vowel in the middle so that it says its own alphabet name — for example, 'a' in 'cane' says /ay/, 'i' in 'kite' says /eye/.

Through 14 fun word maze games, children collect four letters in order as they travel from start to finish, discovering how the silent 'e' transforms a short vowel word into a long vowel word. The simple rule to remember: silent e makes the vowel say its name!

CVC VS SILENT E WORD PAIRS

CVC word	Silent e word	CVC word	Silent e word	CVC word	Silent e word
can	cane	kit	kite	hop	hope
cap	cape	pin	pine	rob	robe
cut	cute	rid	ride	tub	tube
dim	dime	not	note	win	wine
fad	fade	pal	pale		

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will be able to:

- Understand that a silent 'e' at the end of a word makes no sound
- Recognise that silent 'e' causes the vowel before it to say its alphabet name (long vowel sound)
- Read CVCe words confidently — cane, kite, hope, cute, and more
- Compare CVC and CVCe word pairs and hear the difference in vowel sound
- Complete 14 word maze games and a Ladder Game matching quiz

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. Introduce the silent e rule

Before opening the book, introduce the silent 'e' concept in a memorable way. Say: 'The silent e is very quiet — it never speaks! But it is very powerful because it changes the vowel in the

middle. It makes the vowel say its own name!' Then demonstrate: 'cap' becomes 'cape', 'kit' becomes 'kite'. Say both words slowly and ask your child to listen carefully to the difference.

2. Play the Word Maze Game

There are 14 maze games in this book. In each game, children collect four letters in order as they travel from start to finish, building a silent e word along the way. Encourage your child to say the completed word aloud each time. The maze format makes the letter-collecting feel like an adventure!

3. Compare CVC and CVCe pairs

Each maze starts with a CVC word and ends with the silent e version. Ask your child to say both words slowly and listen to the change — for example: 'can... cane'. Ask: 'What sound did the 'a' make in can? What sound does it make in cane?' Use the reference table above to practise more pairs. This comparison is the heart of the silent e lesson.

4. Point to pictures and connect meaning

Use the illustrations to help your child understand the meaning of each silent e word. Ask: 'What is a cane?' or 'Can you draw a kite?' Connecting the new long vowel words to their meanings makes them stick much more effectively than phonics practice alone.

5. Complete the Ladder Game and re-read

Encourage your child to complete the Ladder Game quiz at the end of the book, then re-read all the word pairs from start to finish. Each re-reading builds fluency and automaticity with the CVCe pattern.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Play the Magic E game. Write a simple CVC word on paper — for example: 'pin'. Then add an 'e' at the end and say: 'The magic e has arrived — what happens to the word now?' Ask your child to read the new word: 'pine'. Try as many pairs as you can: cap/cape, rob/robe, cut/cute, hop/hope, dim/dime. For an extra challenge, ask your child to think of their own CVC word and see if adding a magic e makes a real word!

Try the fun online learning activities for this book on our website!

[Click here to try the online learning activities](#)

TEACHER'S NOTES AND TIPS

The silent e or 'magic e' rule is one of the most important patterns in English phonics — it unlocks a huge number of common words. The key teaching point is that the 'e' itself is silent but its effect is powerful. Some children initially try to pronounce the final 'e' — gently redirect them by saying 'the e is sleeping!' or 'the e is invisible!' The CVC-to-CVCe comparison is the most effective teaching tool: saying 'pin' and 'pine' back to back makes the vowel change immediately audible. Note that the silent e rule does have exceptions — come, have, give, live do not follow the pattern — but it is best to introduce these exceptions later, once the core rule is well established.