

Answer Key

CORA IS 5 and just beginning to read — this whole packet is meant to be done WITH a grown-up. Read every italic 'grown-up' line out loud; she does the writing and circling. A digraph is TWO LETTERS that make ONE SOUND (sh, ch, th, wh, ck). Grade gently: accept any legible attempt at the digraph letters; the goal is that she HEARS the one sound and writes the two letters. wh here makes the /w/ sound (whale) and ck makes ONE /k/ sound at the END of a word (duck) — it never starts a word. Page 7's trap is the big one: 'ck' is ONE sound, not two — praise her for saying ONE. Say each picture word aloud FOR her if she is stuck; this is decoding practice, not a spelling test.

Page 2 • Two Letters, One Sound (sh)

- Ex 1 (trace sh) — she traces the two letters s-h. Accept any legible sh.
- Ex 2 (match the /sh/ picture) — ship and fish both start/end with sh; the DECOY is the duck (that is /k/, not /sh/). She should circle ship and fish.

Page 3 • Two More Teams: ch and th

- Ex 1 (write ch) — she writes ch in front of the picture words: chip, chick, chair. Accept any legible ch.
- Ex 2 (write th) — bath ends in th; she writes th. Accept any legible th. (th is the sound at the start of 'thumb' and the end of 'bath'.)

Page 4 • wh at the Start, ck at the End

- Ex 1 (write wh) — whale starts with wh (the /w/ sound). She writes wh. wh almost always starts a word.
- Ex 2 (write ck) — duck ends with ck (one /k/ sound). She writes ck. ck almost always ENDS a word and comes right after a short vowel.

Page 5 • Fill the Missing Team

- Fill the missing digraph (say the picture, write the two letters): a) ship = sh b) chick = ch c) whale = wh d) bath = th e) duck = ck f) fish = sh. Accept any legible correct digraph. Each blank takes exactly ONE two-letter team.

Page 6 • Sort the Sounds & Read

- Ex 1 (sort into sh-bin vs ch-bin) — sh: shop, shell, ship. ch: chin, chop, chick. (She writes or copies each word into the matching bin; accept correct sorting.)
- Ex 2 (read the words) — she reads each aloud: shop, chin, that, chip, duck, wish. These are all decodable with the five teams she learned. Help sound out if stuck.

Page 7 • The Big Detective Question

- Ex 1 (misconception check) — Does 'ck' say TWO sounds? NO. ck says ONE sound: /k/. Circle ONE. (Counter: sh is also two letters and still ONE sound. Two letters can still be one sound — that is what a digraph IS. Praise her for saying ONE.)
- Ex 2 (write the team into the word) — a) ship = sh b) chip = ch c) duck = ck. She writes the two-letter team to finish each picture word. Accept legible digraphs.