

FRENCH READING RULES

- there are 6 vowels (voyelles) and 20 consonants (consonnes) in the alphabet.
- We have reviewed the letters of the alphabet, their upper- and lower-case formation and the sounds that they make.
- when certain letters are combined in French, they make a complex sound, or diagraph, for example on, in, and ch. For a list of these sounds please [click here](#). While reading, identifying and circling these diagraphs will help your child read words more fluently
 - **We have worked to master:** é, è, on,
- Syllables are one letter or a group of letters that make a sound. Typically they are a blend of a vowel and another sound.
- The letter 's' at the end of a word is silent, as in *tapis*.
- The letter 'e' at the end of a word does not make a sound unless there is an accent (é), as in marché. The letter 'e' indicates the feminine form of a word, as in *petite* and *polie*. You would pronounce the consonant before the e.
- Consonants at the end of a word are usually silent. The following are high-frequency words which do not follow this rule: *avec, sac, parc, cinq, coq, six, dix*

- When a vowel follows a digraph (a pair or trio of letters combined to represent a single, distinct sound [ou, on, an, en, in, oi, ien, eau,...]), the digraph is broken into each letter's sound. For example, the digraph 'an' in **animal** is no longer a digraph because of the vowel 'i' that follows. Therefore the word is read as a-ni-mal. There are exceptions when the digraph consists of two vowels, as in oie or two consonants, as in marche, campagne.

- The letter 's' between two vowels sounds "zz", as in **cousin**.

- The letter 'c' in front of the vowels **e**, **i** and **y** says 'ss' as in cerise, cible and bicyclette.

- 'ent' is silent at the end of a verb in its' plural form as in *Ils marchent. Les filles regardent. Elles dansent.*
'ent' is heard/read at the end of adverbs, adjectives and nouns.

- Examples of adverbs are *lentement, comment, certainement, rapidement, violent, poliment, seulement.*

- Examples of nouns that end in 'ent' are *une jument, l'argent, une dent, du ciment, des aliments, un élément, trois documents, deux bâtiments* (note *un, une, le, la, l', les, des, du* or *a number* in front of the words indicate a noun).

- Examples of adjectives are *content, prudent*

- -ot and -op at the end of a word make the sound ô, as in *un mot, un maillot, trop, au galop*

- We are working on reading the instructions in our alphabétik workbook. The instructions we have covered are:

Entourne - circle

Relie - join

Compte - count

Souligne - underline

Nomme - name

Regarde - look

Écris - write

Colorie - colour

Dessine - draw

Lis - read

Trace - trace

Complète - complete