

Introduction

Synthetic Phonics – Long Vowels - /er/ Sound

Word list for completion...

Grapheme **er** spelled words: *verve, verb, verge, nerve, merge, kerb, swerve, perch, germ, her, term, Perth, nerd, perm, stern, nerd*

Grapheme **ir** spelled words: *birth, bird, birch, girl, girth, chirp, dirt, skirt, squirt, squirm, smirk, thirst, shirk, stir, quirk*

Grapheme **or** spelled words: *work, world, word, worm, worst, worth*

Vowel **ur** spelled words: *blur, blurb, spurt, purse, surge, surf, nurse, lurch, church, curl, curve, hurt, burst, burnt, turn*

Directions

- Your child's task is to write the missing graphemes in each box while saying each sound.
- There are 3 boxes for each word to complete.
- The first series of three boxes contain the complete target word, and is to be used as a reference.
- Cover completed words before starting new exercises.

Explanation of shaded sounds

Note that the target vowel sounds are shaded. For instance with the word (verb) ___ **er** ___, the /er/ vowel sound is shaded as a single indivisible grapheme and must always be considered as a whole unit, *not* as separate letters **e** and **r**. Again, this illustrates that the grapheme **er** is a visual symbol for the /er/ sound.

Tips




- Cover the target words.
- Encourage your child to sound out the sounds while writing the letters.
- Feedback for errors, i.e. If your child writes v **re** b for **verb**, point to the correct spelling of **er** and state, 'This is how the /er/ sound is spelt in this word. What do you need to do?'

Teacher/Parent Guide

Synthetic Phonics – Teacher/Parent Guide

Step 1:


Teacher/Parent Script: 'Let's look at these three boxes. We have 3 words. The words are **verve**, **birth** and **work**.' (Hold your finger under each word and go from left to right while reading each word.)

		
verve	birth	work



Encourage your child to repeat the words with you. Then, sound out the phoneme/sounds in each word.

Teacher/Parent Script: 'The word **work** has 3 sounds. The sounds are /w//er/ and /k/. (Hold your finger under each **sound** this time, and go from left to right while sounding out each sound. It is important to say the letter sounds, *not* the letter names.)


w or k



Teacher/Parent Guide

Step 2:




Your child's task in this step is to complete each word by writing in the missing letters/graphemes. Cover the completed words in the previous 3 box set before beginning this task.

Teacher/Parent Script: 'These are the same words from before. But this time the words are missing letters/sounds. We need to fill in the missing letters. This letters (point to **or** for the word **work**) makes the /er/ sound.' _ **or** _

Complete the 3 words: **verve**, **birth** and **work**.

Teacher/Parent Script: 'Here are 3 ways to spell the sound /er/. In the word **work**, the vowel /er/ is written as **or**. In the word **birth** the vowel /er/ is written as **ir**.'

Once the 3 words have been completed, ask your child to sound out each word and check for spelling or letter formation errors.

		
_ er _	_ ir _	_ or _

Step 3:

Your child's task in this step is to complete each word once again by writing in the missing letters/graphemes, but this time the vowels are also missing. The shaded boxes remain to help your child to be aware of the vowel spellings.

Cover the completed words in the previous 3 box set before beginning this task.

Teacher/Parent Script: 'These are the same words from before. But this time the words are missing letters/sounds. We need to fill in the missing letters. Can you see the shaded boxes? What goes in the shaded boxes, vowels or consonants?' (vowels).

Teacher/Parent Guide

*'In this box the word is **work**. The first sound is /w/. What is the vowel sound next to the /w/? It's....'* Your child's task is to complete the three word boxes. Correct any errors using the process below.

Suggested Error Corrections:




Error: Your child writes **ir** for **or** in **work**




Correction 1: Point to the misspelled word **wirk** and say, 'This is very close to the **or** spelling, but the word says **work**.' Point to the **ir**. 'What do you need to do?'




Error: Your child writes **ur** for **ir** in **birth**.




Correction 2: Point to the misspelled word **burth** and say, 'The **ur** can be a spelling for the /er/ sound, but we don't use it at the end of words. For this word (birth), we use the spelling **ir**. What do you need to do to fix this?'

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound


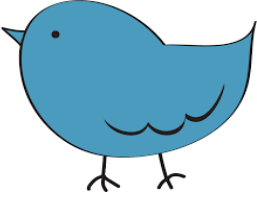

		
verve	birth	work


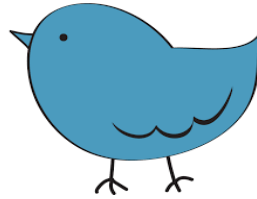

		
er	ir	or


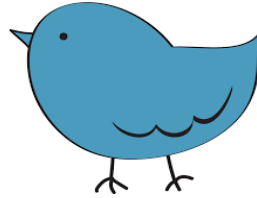

		
ve	th	k


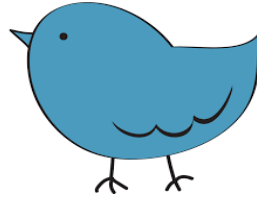

		

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound




 <p>to drive</p>		
<p>verb</p>	<p>bird</p>	<p>blur</p>




 <p>to drive</p>		
<p>— er —</p>	<p>— ir —</p>	<p>— — ur</p>




 <p>to drive</p>		
<p>v ■ —</p>	<p>b ■ —</p>	<p>b — ■</p>




 <p>to drive</p>		
<p>— ■ —</p>	<p>— ■ —</p>	<p>— — ■</p>

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

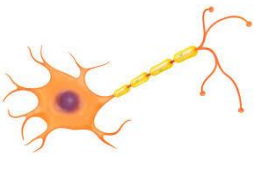


		
verge	birch	world

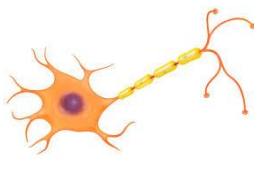


		
__ er __	__ ir __	__ or __

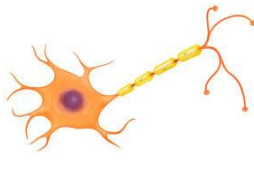


		
__ ge	__ ch	__ d

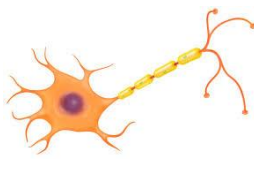


		
__ __	__ __	__ __

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

		
nerve	girl	word




		
__er__	__ir__	__or__




		
__ve	__l	__d




		
__	__	__

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound




		
merge	girth	surge




		
— er —	— ir —	— ur —




		
— ge	— th	— ge




		
— —	— —	— —

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

		
kerb	skirt	lurch

		
__er__	__ir__	__ur__



		
k █ __	s __ █ __	__ █ ch

		
__ █ __	__ __ █ __	__ █ __

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

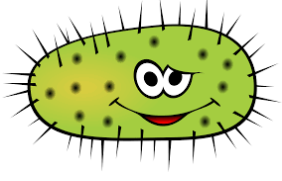
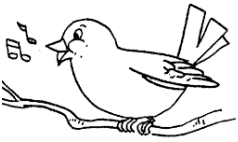
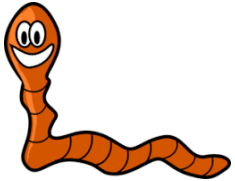
		
smirk	swerve	church

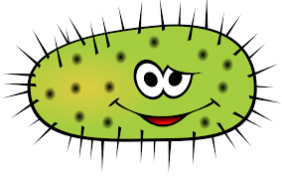
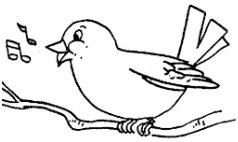
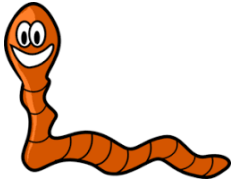
		
__ ir __	__ er __	__ ur __

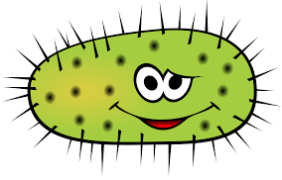
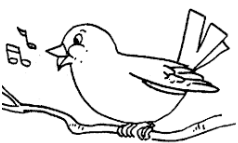
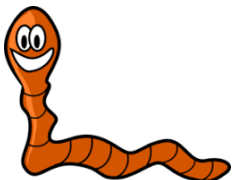
		
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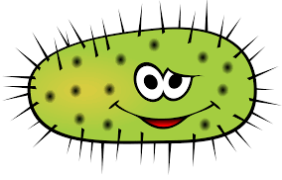
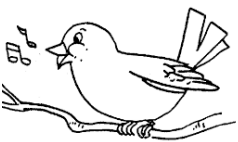
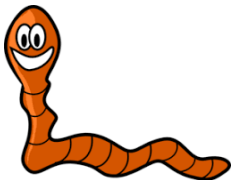
		
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Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

		
germ	chirp	worm




		
__ er __	__ ir __	__ or __




		
g █ __	ch █ __	__ █ m




		
__ █ __	__ █ __	__ █ __

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound




		
dirt	nurse	her




		
__ ir __	__ ur __	__ er __




		
d ir __	__ ur se	h er __




		
__ ir __	__ ur __	__ er __

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound




		
term	blurb	thirst




		
__ er __	__ ur __	__ ir __




		
t ___	__ l ___	th ___




		
___	___	___

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

		
shirk	spurt	Perth

		
__ ir __	__ __ ur __	__ er th




		
sh __	__ __ t	__ th

		
__ __	__ __ __	__ __

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound


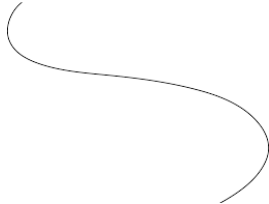

		
perm	stir	purse


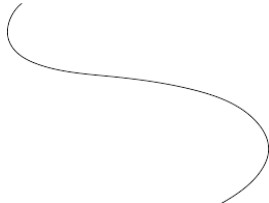

		
__ er __	__ __ ir	__ ur __


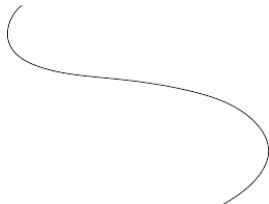

		
p ____	s ____	__ ____ se


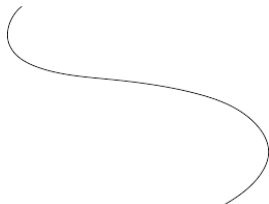

		
__ ____	__ ____	__ ____

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound




		
stern	curve	worst




		
___ er ___	___ ur ___	___ or ___




		
s ___ ___	___ ___ ve	___ ___ s ___




		
___ ___	___ ___	___ ___

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound




		
quirk	squirm	squirt




		
___ ir ___	___ ir ___	___ ir ___




		
___ u ___	___ u ___	___ q ___




		
___ ___	___ ___	___ ___

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

		
worth	nerd	hurt

		
__ or __	__ er __	__ ur __




		
w ___	n ___	__ t

		
___	___	___

Synthetic Phonics - Long Vowel (graphemes: er or ir ur) /er/ sound

		
burst	burnt	surf

		
__ ur __	__ ur __	__ ur __

		
__ ur t	__ ur n __	s ur __

		
__ ur __	__ ur __	__ ur __