

'y' as a Vowel: List of Words, Phrases, and Sentences for Lesson Planning

Our word lists can help you plan for teaching 'y' as a vowel. Use them in your reading, spelling, and fluency-building lessons and activities. Remember that each interaction with words is an opportunity to build vocabulary. Consider pointing out words with multiple meanings to your students.

WORDS

Words with 'y' as a vowel (long 'i')

by	my	shy	cry	fly	spy
try	dry	fry	sly	sky	pry

Words with 'y' as a vowel (long 'e')

mommy	daddy	puppy	nanny	bunny	happy
twenty	plenty	fifty	pantry	candy	clumsy
nifty	hefty				

If you have already taught r-controlled vowels, you can use the following words.

party	tardy	thirty	thirsty
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Words with 'y' as a vowel in the middle of the word

gym	hymn	myth	crypt	crystal	mystery
lyric	oxygen	physics	symbol	symptom	syrup
system	typical				

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PHRASES

Phrases with 'y' as a vowel (long 'i')

is by	get my	did cry	will fly
can fry it	wet or dry	did not try	is a spy
is not sly	in the sky	is shy	will pry

Phrases with 'y' as a vowel (long 'e')

mommy and daddy	the happy puppy	is a nanny	has a hobby
in the lobby	got the candy	in the pantry	has plenty
is fifty	can get twenty	saw the bunny	is not clumsy

If you have already taught r-controlled vowels, you can use the following phrases.

to the party	tardy to class	thirty shirts	was very thirsty
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Phrases with 'y' as a vowel in the middle of the word

at the gym	sang a hymn	in the crypt	is a myth
the shiny crystal	know the lyric	is a mystery	needs oxygen
learned in physics	is a symbol	has the symptoms	pour the syrup
is the system	is not typical		

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SENTENCES

Sentences with y as a vowel (long 'i')

The dog is by the rug.	Can I have my cup?
The bug can fly.	Is Ben shy?
I will fry the fish.	Did you try to get the net?
Is the rag wet or dry?	Jan is not a spy.
The fox is sly.	Dad will pry it off.

Sentences with 'y' as a vowel (long 'e')

I have to ask my mommy and daddy if I can go to the mall.	The happy puppy ran to see Hank.
Pam is a nanny for two kids.	What is a hobby that you like?
I will sit in the lobby until Jim comes.	I got candy for my friends.
Mom put the snacks in the pantry.	Greg has plenty of cash for the gifts.
The ring costs fifty bucks.	Can you get twenty sticks for the fire?
My dog saw a bunny and ran after it!	Sam is not clumsy at all.

If you have already taught r-controlled vowels, you can use the following sentences.

Were you invited to Mike's party?	You should not be tardy to class.
There were thirty kids out sick today.	I was very thirsty after the race.

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Sentences with 'y' as a vowel in the middle of the word

I went to the gym for a quick workout.

We sang my favorite hymn today in church.

The body is buried in the crypt

It is a myth that it is good luck if it rains on your wedding day.

I found a shiny crystal in the woods.

I do not know the lyrics to this song.

My necklace disappeared and it is still a mystery what happened to it.

We all need oxygen to live.

I learned about motion in physics.

The American flag is a symbol of freedom.

Henry has many flu symptoms.

I love pouring syrup on my waffles.

Is the communication system working?

It is not typical for it to be this hot in March.