



## Tricks To Help With Tough Words

1. **Magic "e"**- This letter has magic powers! When it is found at the end of a word it can, but doesn't always, reach over its neighbour and bite the vowel making it say its own name.

E.g. **made here ride mode rude**

2. **Ghost eyes**- These are really easy to spot! Two "O"s are side by side and they say "ooo" like a ghost.

E.g. **school mood yahoo moon**

3. **Screeching sisters**- **these** are really easy to see but even more fun to say. Two "e"s are side by side and whenever they get together they screech "eeee"!

E.g. **meet green seen deep**

**4. Pinching Sounds-** What do you say if someone pinches you? "OW!!" (Or in the case of the English cuckoo language "OU".) This will happen in the middle or at the end of words and is a little trickier to spot.

**E.g. house loud how growl**

**5. When some people see a spider-** funny as this is it is the truth, "EW!!". "Ew" often happens at the end of words but can be found in the middle of a word sometimes.

**E.g. grew blew few newt**

**6. Bossy "r"-** "R" is a very bossy letter! It likes to rake over vowel sounds, most often an "e", usually at the end of words. (But not always!)

**E.g. teacher stir art Connor**

**7. The "ight" family-** This family reminds us of our friend Ivan. You see Ivan the **G**host goes **H**ome for **T**oast, so whenever we see those letters together we say "ight".

**E.g. fright might sight right**

**8. "H" buddies-** "H" is the kind of letter that has lots of friends. It often hooks up with these friends and makes two letters say one sound!

**E.g. ch-** chant, chill **ph-** phone, Phil **th-** that, the  
**sh** (the quiet sound) - she, sharp **wh-** what, white

**9. "Ay" and "ey"**- These two combinations are Canadian favourites because at the end of words, most of the time, they say "eh"!

**E.g. play may grey prey**

**10. Two vowels go walkin'**- This is a really fussy rule and it doesn't work all the time but its fun to sing! "When two vowels go a walkin', the first one does the talkin', and says its own name!" (Don't forget "y" can be a vowel sometimes.)

**E.g. boat sail eat**

**11. Crazy "L"**- "L" is a crazy letter! When "l" is in the middle of a word without another "l" beside it, it often doesn't make a sound. Instead it makes the neighbour vowel change its sound.

**E.g. talk walk chalk**

**12. The shivering sound**- What sound do you make after being outside on a cold winter morning? "Brrrrrr!" "Br" makes the sound when it is at the beginning of a word.

**E.g. brown breakfast brink brilliant**

**13. The grizzly sound**- Have you ever met a grizzly bear? If you have you'll know they say "GRRRRR!" "Gr" says the name sound at the beginning of many words.

E.g. great grin grape gruff

14. **The doctor visit-** You visit the doctor with a sore throat and you are asked to say "Arrrrr!!!" "Ar" can be found in

E.g. are sugar lunar dollar

15. **What a pirate might say-** "Land ahoy!!!" (oy/ui)

E.g. ahoy boy spoil foil coin join

16. **"AW don't be so AWful!"-**

E.g. awful yawn awesome draw lawn



*Have fun reading!!*

*Jacqui Pryor*