

A New School for Ruth

Teacher Resources

Word Count: 237

ATOS: 1.6

High-Frequency Words:

a	give	is	out	school	want
after	have	little	paper	the	was
are	her	of	please	there	
for	his	our	said	two	



Focus Skill:

 Long /oo/ & /yoo/

This book features words with long /oo/ & /yoo/ spelling patterns for decoding practice.

Decoding Skills:

- Set 1 Skills: Letter-Sound Correspondence, Word Building, CVC Words
- Set 2 Skills: Consonant Blends, Consonant Digraphs, Double Consonants
- CVCe words
- Vowel Teams

Discussion Questions:

1. Why does Ruth need June's help?

Possible Answers: it is Ruth's first day at this school; she doesn't know where things are; she doesn't know the rules and routines of this school

2. How does June help Ruth? Choose an example from the story.

Possible Answers: she shares her supplies with Ruth; she shows Ruth around the room/school; she lets Ruth feed Duke; she makes Ruth feel welcome

3. What do Ruth and June have in common?

Possible Answers: they are both girls; they both have loose teeth; they both use a blue spoon; they are in the same class

4. Do you think Ruth had a good first day?

Why or why not?

Possible Answers: yes / she is happy; she says she likes her new school



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Extension Activity:

Long /oo/ Word Sort



Materials: Long /oo/ Word Sort printable, scissors, pencil (optional)

Purpose: Students will identify long /oo/ and /yoo/ sounds with the Long /oo/ Word Sort printable.

Procedure:

1. Print Long /oo/ Word Sort printable (one copy per student).
2. Cut out each word on page 2 of the printable.
3. Read each word. If it has a long /oo/ sound, place it in the left column on page 1 of the printable. If it has a /yoo/ sound, place it in the right column.
4. Keep going until you have sorted all the words by their vowel sounds.

Variations:

- Students can complete this activity independently, in partners or small groups, or one-on-one with a helper. Each student should complete their own copy.
- Laminate the Long /oo/ Word Sort printable for repeated use (e.g., in a phonics center).
- Extra practice: encourage students to use page 3 of the printable to identify the vowel sound and sort the words. Each pair has one long /oo/ sound and one /yoo/ sound
- Challenge: encourage students to choose words from page 2 and use them in sentences. Students can record their sentences on page 4 of the printable.