

Many spelling patterns for 3rd and 4th graders focus on spelling long and short vowel sounds. Long vowel sounds are notated with a straight line above the letter (ā) and short vowel sounds have a curved line above them (ă)

The spelling patterns are written as a combination of consonants and vowels. Special vowels, like “silent e” are written with the vowel itself. The spelling pattern CVCe would be read, “consonant, vowel, consonant, silent e”. Words like make, take, and lake match this spelling pattern.

When learning vowel sounds, students will sort by sound **and** spelling. In order for a word to fit in the category, it has to match both the spelling and sound pattern. If a word matches **only** the sound or **only** the spelling pattern, it is considered an *oddball*. For instance, the word “love” matches the CVCe spelling pattern, however the sound is ŭ, not ō. “Love” would be an *oddball*.

**Red Group:** This group is studying the pattern of whether to modify the root word when adding “ing” to a word.

**Orange Group:** This group is studying r controlled vowels. There are three sounds, and four spelling patterns

**Yellow Group:** This group is studying ă **CVC** and ō **CVCe** and **CVVC**.

**Green Group:** This group is studying ĭ **CVC** and ī **CVCe**.

**Blue Group:** This group is studying triple letter consonant clusters, specifically “thr”, “shr”, and “squ”.

ǎ ě ĭ ō ŭ

ā ē ī ō ū