

## Information for Teachers

### Long Vowel Series

#### Aims of the Long Vowels Series

The **main aim** of this series of books, written in the year 2000, is to introduce the 16 spellings (graphemes) of the long vowel sounds (phonemes) specified in the National Literacy Strategy of 1998 to be taught in key stage 1.

These are

*ai/ay/a-e ee/ea ie/y/i-e/igh oa/ow/o-e oo/ue/ew/u-e*

Each spelling (grapheme) of each sound (phoneme) is introduced separately in its own dedicated story.

The **objective of each story** is to introduce enough words using the specific grapheme to make sure the grapheme-phoneme correspondence is remembered.

The **second aim of the series** is to use only graphemes that children have previously been taught, thus making the books fully decodable if they are used in numerical order.

The use of the graphemes in each story is cumulative so that the later books use spellings taught earlier in the series.

There is a list of words for each grapheme on page 11 of each book. In the print run of 2008 the phonemes and graphemes are analysed on page 12.

The grapheme 'ay' has been introduced first because of its use in the three high-frequency words from the 1998 National Literacy Strategy '*play, day, away*'. This grapheme also appears in the names of the days of the week.

This is followed by the grapheme 'ee' because it appears in the words '*see, bee, sleep, cheep,*' used in earlier series of books.

The graphemes '*ow, ou, er, oo, or, aw*' also appear frequently in the stories because the words '*down, out, over, look, for, saw*' were also on the list of 1998. Some of these graphemes, i.e. '*er, oo, ow, or*' are now taught in Phonic Phase 3 of Letters and Sounds, whilst the others '*ou*' and '*aw*' are taught in Phase 5.

Of the long vowel graphemes listed below only '*ee, oo, ai, oa, igh*' now appear in Phase 3 of Letters and Sounds. This means that this series of books spans both Phase 3 and Phase 5

#### **Book Titles**

Book No.	Title	Grapheme/spelling
1	<i>The Hen on the Hay</i>	ay
2	<i>The Steep Hill</i>	ee
3	<i>The Goose</i>	oo
4	<i>Bean Dreams</i>	ea
5	<i>Rain</i>	ai
6	<i>Fun in the Boat</i>	oa
7	<i>The Cave</i>	a-e
8	<i>Hide and Seek</i>	i-e
9	<i>The Bone</i>	o-e
10	<i>The Willow Tree</i>	ow
11	<i>I Can't Fly</i>	y
12	<i>The Big Fish Pie</i>	ie
13	<i>A Clue to Bean</i>	ue
14	<i>The Blue Jewel</i>	ew
15	<i>Night</i>	igh
16	<i>The Long Blue Tube</i>	u-e

Vocabulary in each book

**Book 1** *The Hen on the Hay*

Phase 2: it is a in and on hen gets up an egg sits not let cannot am but  
cats dogs tap has

Phase 3: wet shed then will them Kevin chickens

Phase 4: sitting next twenty must grass last crack

Tricky: go to the little she into they two all you I my one have

Shy i: Jelly Lotty every

Vowels: ay: day May play hay away says stay hurray

ai: again

ee: see

ea: Bean

or: for

243 words

**Book 2** *The Steep Hill*

Phase 2: and up hill on rocks a get top sit of sudden is big at but can bottom  
hit his mad back

Phase 3: Kevin them with bang push will

Phase 4: rest grass jumps trips bump fast second crash last

Tricky: one go the to they when all there two are he oh no going

Shy i: Lotty very  
 Vowels: ay: day play  
 ee: see steep need green between screech geese indeed three feet  
 speeding sheep tree  
 oo: look  
 oo: soon  
 ow: down  
 or: for  
 er: under  
 Other: falling baa behind 201 words

**Book 3** *The Goose*

Phase 2: it a on sat red in ran get fell big peck us not back as of  
 Phase 3: having bush then will with bang  
 Phase 4: crept felt grass pond bent splash across help just fast  
 Tricky: was want to the she said you me no I he so could  
 Shy i: Jelly happy  
 Vowels: ay: day play playing  
 ai: again  
 ea: Bean  
 oo: boo shoo oops cool snooze swooped gloomy balloon scoop  
 goose zoomed rooster cock-a-doodle-doo soon snoozingf  
 ow: down  
 ou: out shouted  
 er: under water  
 Other: saw popped coming jumped wanted behind splashed 211 words

**Book 4** *Bean Dreams*

Phase 2: in of buns his up it him and not back hut big cat a lots red but let  
 Phase 3: shed things six dish yum then them Chuff having fish chips  
 Phase 4: from next went  
 Tricky: one was the little he to said me she there what two  
 Shy i: Jelly  
 Vowels: ay: day  
 ai: again  
 ee; sleep asleep peeping three green  
 ea: Bean dreaming eat cream real stealing eating feast dream leaf  
 treat heaps peaches screamed beans

oo: look good

oo: soon

or: for

Other: saw jumped

209 words

**Book 5** *Rain*

Phase 2: on of and in got big hid am a dogs fell kennel

Phase 3: Kevin sitting then bang getting with

Phase 4: drip drop stop splish splash splosh went black felt swimming help bank  
flash crash swam

Tricky: the were was they to into there I two

Shy i: grassy happy

Vowels: ai: again raindrops waiting rain afraid tail waited rainbow

ee; deep

ea: reached

oo: soon roof

ou: about

y: sky

ie: cried

or: for

er: bigger water

Other: Wellington puddle behind began stopped

151 words

**Book 6** *Fun in the Boat*

Phase 2: on a fun in is not get of big it hit up fell but back

Phase 3: will this fish then

Phase 4: grass next pond from bank held across

Tricky: the was to she little I have said we oh no want where when

Shy i: Jelly grumpy

Vowels: ay: playing away

ee; tree

oa: boat toad croak floated groaned soaked oak goat floating

ou: out

er: under over water

Other: saw wobbled middle toppled jumped looked

204 words

**Book 7** *The Cave*

Phase 2: and in run a big rocks on it hot sit of is dogs up him hiss as can tell  
back until kennel

Phase 3: Kevin along path them then with

Phase 4: jumping grass must past fast

Tricky: one go to the they come little some into two when oh no there you  
have

Shy i: Lotty very

Vowels: ay: day play says  
ai: afraid again  
ee: creep sees sleep been feels  
oo: soon cool too  
a-e: lane gate takes game makes shade cave late wakes tale safe  
brave snake shakes  
ou: out  
er: under

Other: Wellington 211 words

**Book 8** *Hide and Seek*

Phase 2: and ran up ten in am it a not fell back of

Phase 3: among six seven buzz this bushes then shed

Phase 4: went crack trunk still help must

Tricky: one to the two she said I oh no there were he they do be so little  
was

Shy i: Jelly

Vowels: ay: day play  
ee: seek trees three keeping bees beehive sleep asleep  
ea: Bean  
a-e: made  
i-e: hide while five wide inside nine beehive dive like time  
oa; oak  
oo: look  
oo: too  
ou: out counted  
or: for  
er: over

Other: saw jumped coming eight four buzzed 194 words

**Book 9**      *The Bone*

Phase 2:      in had a ran up his sat him dug put on it not fell is kennel and up

Phase 3:      Kevin yum with bush then

Phase 4:      next went crept

Tricky:      was the he said to be oh no could where my have me

Shy i:      Jelly

Vowels:      ay:      away play played

ee:      see asleep three

ea:      eat leave

a-e:      came

i-e:      bite

o-e:      alone bone rose hole stone woke joke

ow:      down

Other:      saw Wellington picked wanted filled coming began      182 words

**Book 10**      *The Willow Tree*

Phase 2:      is a and sit its in sad moss eggs until it of

Phase 3:      with then

Phase 4:      pond branches black trunk spring help twigs nest hatch from winds  
strong

Tricky:      the there to she into they go all her comes are have

Shy i:      Jelly happy baby

Vowels:      ay:      lays play away

ai:      again

ee:      tree three see

ea:      Bean leave

a-e:      makes

i-e:      like

y:      by fly

o-e:      alone

ow;      willow below crow hollow grow yellow blown grown snow

oo:      look

oo:      food

ou:      out

or:      for

er:      summer another after bigger stronger winter under

Other:      call falls autumn young adults find lives      207 words

**Book 11**     *I Can't Fly*

Phase 2:     a on and in am ran up fell off his but hen until robin him

Phase 3:     chicken bush will wings along then

Phase 4:     grass from land just himself flap flop plop think went

Tricky:     little was the he I to said my you me into so she were going are  
they

Shy i:

Vowels:     ay:     playing

ai:     again

ee:     trees see

ea:     teach

a-e:     take came

i-e:     like

y:     by fly sky cry why flying lying try

ow;     grow

oo:     look took

oo:     whoosh too

ow:     down

or:     for

er:     over after bigger

Other:     saw would jumped can't flapped your began don't

228 words

**Book 12**     *The Big Fish Pie*

Phase 2:     and a big on gets him in but as it of at its rid cut sick back pecks

Phase 3:     Chuff having fish yum much dish will then bangs

Phase 4:     grass fast next stuck must thanks

Tricky:     are they the to he comes she be oh no all goes

Shy i:     Jelly

Vowels:     ai:     pain

ee:     feels asleep sees tree bleed sleep sleeping

ea:     Bean treat eat beak

a-e:     save

ie:     pie cries lies magpie spies flies tries die

oa:     throat

o-e:     bone

ow:     knows

oo: looks  
oo: too soon  
ow: down  
ou: out  
or: for  
er: after

Other: falls hero nobody pretends 234 words

**Book 13** *A Clue to Bean*

Phase 2: had not him did not a map on of it in red dots set off his back and

Phase 3: missing then this with well box shed such

Phase 4: pond cross went across forest stuck trunk glad help

Tricky: was two she have where he the little there to into come they

Shy i: Jelly very

Vowels: ay: days  
ai: trail  
ee: seen tree feel peeped  
ea: Bean seat  
a-e: came  
i-e: inside  
y: by  
oa: boat oak  
ow: follow hollow  
ue: clue blue glue true rescue  
ou: out  
or: for

Other: saw jumped middle fallen banged head helped Wellington friends find  
219 words

**Book 14** *The Blue Jewel*

Phase 2: it a in sun up fell of and on its ran him is back rabbit

Phase 3: ring with path then long

Phase 4: glinting nest wind grass next just

Tricky: was the she oh no to her little here old one said my

Shy i: Jelly sunny lucky

Vowels: ay: day playing away  
ee: tree asleep  
ea: beak

a-e: lane came blades  
i-e: like  
ie: magpie  
ow: burrow  
ue: blue  
ew: jewel flew chew dew new blew shrew  
oo: took  
ow: down  
ou: out  
er: after

Other: saw picked rolled tall dropped 210 words

**Book 15** *Night*

Phase 2: it of and in a lit up got let's get up on but not hill back kennel

Phase 3: Kevin then bang with wet shed them

Phase 4: crash jump must from went crack

Tricky: was the were there into here said we go to so little they all when  
somewhere

Shy i: Jelly

Vowels: ay: away may stay stayed

ai: rain

ee: deeper asleep

ea: Bean please

a-e: came

y: sky

igh: night bright light lightning frightened high daylight

o-e: woke

oo: took

ou: out

or: for

oor: door

er: another thunder deeper water

Other: saw Wellington middle splashed banged 187 words

**Book 16** *The Long Blue Tube*

Phase 2: it of and a tops is can rabbit carrot

Phase 3: Kevin long pecking digging this then along

Phase 4: plants strong went just splash drink  
Tricky: was the were she all to he some me said what comes there have we  
Shy i: sunny  
Vowels: ay: days way sprayed  
a-e: cabbages  
y: by  
i-e: like  
o-e: roses holes  
oo: too  
ue: blue  
ew: chewing  
u-e: June cute tube huge used useful excuse  
ow: growing  
ou: out  
or: for  
er: water  
Other: Wellington month tall saw strawberries blackbird loved 192 words

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