

Quick Coding – making word structure visible

Teachers, copy this three page Guide to Quick Coding for your children.

Quick Coding helps you:

- understand how sounds and syllables work in words.
- show what you know about words in writing.
- remember what you have learned and see how it fits with new learning.
- think about how to read and spell new words.

Steps for Quick Coding

1. Dot the vowel(s).

clocks unopened yesterday

2. Circle prefixes and suffixes.

clocks unopened yesterday

3. Box the consonant digraphs.

clocks unopened yesterday

4. Make a rail car for each syllable.

clocks unopened yesterday

5. Identify the syllable type with its initial.

clocks unopened yesterday

6. Code the vowel sounds.

clöcks ünöpēned yēstērdäy

7. Read the word.

Note: Teachers divide syllables for students until Unit 32.

Syllable Division

a. Divide between 2 consonants.

picnic costume

b. With 3 consonants divide after the first or second (keep digraphs or blends together).

hundred kingdom

c. Divide before 1 consonant or after it.

tiger cabin

d. Divide before consonant + le.

maple handle

e. In a few words, divide between two vowels.

lion create

When is Quick Coding used?

Three activities in the Five Day Unit Plan make use of Quick Coding:

- Whole Class Day 2: Word Detectives
- Independent Day 2: Word list (written by students on Day 1)
- Independent Day 4: Review Sentences

Unit 5 Word Detectives Grade 2

Take my advice and sit in the
 shade at the road race.

I saw two mice run into
 a hole in the basement.

Name Melanie Date 5 October

Quick Coded Word Detectives page
from TG TR

Guide to Quick Coding marks

You will learn about Quick Coding a little bit at a time. All the ways to mark up words that you will do this year are right here. You can come back to these pages again and again when you need them.

Quick Coding the six syllable types

Syllable Type	Quick Coding	How it looks
Open Code; o	Make a straight line over the vowel for the Vowel Man to 'sign' his name.	gō wē flū sōlō sīlent bānjō
Closed Code; c	Draw a smile over the Vowel Sound who is happy to be protected by a consonant after.	hăt bĕst tŕĭp ŭntĭl cŏntĕst
Magic e Code; e	Shoot the magic sparks back over one letter. Make a straight line for the Vowel Man and a slash for the Silent Magic e.	sāfē nŏtē tūnē invĭtē complĕtē
Vowel Team Code; v	A straight line and a slash for teams with Vowel Men. A boot or a foot for the twins. A double curve for the boy called Roy. A water droplet for the trouble-making Walter Walrus.	trāĭn rĕal lĭght māybe windŏw moon look raccoon understood cŏĭn tŏy pŏĭson enjŏy saw sound few now because
Robot Code; r	Wrap the captured vowels in the robot's robber sack unless two robots are racing..	far store cārry paper garden
Candle-L Code; L	The magic sparks from the Silent Magic e gain power from an l candle to fly over one more letter. If it lands on a vowel make a straight line for the Vowel Man's name.	title eagle puzzle able uncle

Quick Coding consonant digraphs and trigraphs

What?	Quick Coding	How it looks
Consonant digraphs and trigraphs	Draw a box to show the two letters that make one sound. Add a slash through silent letters.	chin luck fill knot graph bridge

Prefixes and suffixes

What?	Quick Coding	How it looks
Prefixes and suffixes	Circle prefixes and suffixes. Show Sleepy Sammy's z sounds.	<u>un</u> wrap asking bikes <u>s</u> lunches ^z
Suffix -ed	Circle the suffix and show one of the three sounds for -ed .	wait <u>ed</u> ^{ed} roam <u>ed</u> ^d pack <u>ed</u> ^t
Magic suffixes	Circle the magic suffix, draw sparks from the magic vowel over one letter and give the Vowel Man a line to sign.	w <u>ā</u> ving lik <u>e</u> d l <u>ā</u> ter s <u>ā</u> fest
Best Friends to the rescue	Make raised arms over the Best Friends to block the magic sparks and a smile over the rescued vowel sound.	swim <u>mm</u> ing r <u>ü</u> bb <u>e</u> d w <u>ë</u> tter big <u>g</u> est
Other spelling changes	Show who Yo-yo Man is working for over top of the i . When Vicky Violet takes Fred's place in a plural mark the es like other suffixes.	tr <u>y</u> tr <u>y</u> ed ^d b <u>ā</u> by ^e b <u>ā</u> bies ^y l <u>ē</u> af l <u>ē</u> aves ^z kn <u>ī</u> fe kn <u>ī</u> ves ^z

Other sounds and patterns

What?	Quick Coding	How it looks
Queen and umbrella	Quarrelsome Queen takes her umbrella into words. Show that the u does not count as a vowel sound by underlining qu together.	<u>qu</u> een
Unexpected sounds	Draw a wavy line when letters are making unexpected sounds. Make silent letters with dotted lines or use a slash.	~sugar s <u>ā</u> id tw <u>ō</u> be <u>ē</u> n <u>ō</u> ur
Alternative vowels and schwa	Oscar's Bothersome Little Brother says 'uh' even in some short words. The vowels a , i , and e say 'uh' in some longer words. Just mark them all with a wavy line.	~ <u>ā</u> bout s <u>ō</u> n sal <u>ā</u> d pretz <u>ē</u> l husb <u>ā</u> nd
Blue Magic	Spray Blue Magic from the i , e , or y to the c or g to change the sound.	<u>ē</u> ity f <u>ā</u> ce g <u>ē</u> ntle g <u>y</u> m mag <u>ī</u> c
Exploding letters	Show where the letters exploded under the apostrophe.	aren't [*] we've [*] they've [*] she'll [*] I'm [*] <i>are not we have they have she will I am</i>
Special syllables	Circle the syllables with a dotted line to remind us of the special sounds.	question nation nature capture