

Schwa

Generalization In many words, the schwa in an unaccented syllable gives no clue to its spelling: **above**, **family**, **melon**.

Word Sort Sort the list words by the letter that stands for the schwa sound. Use a dictionary to help.

a

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

e

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

i

9. _____

o

10. _____

11. _____

u

12. _____

13. _____

a and e

14. _____

a and i

15. _____

Spelling Words

1. above
2. another
3. upon
4. animal
5. paper
6. open
7. family
8. travel

9. afraid
10. nickel
11. sugar
12. circus
13. item
14. gallon
15. melon

Challenge Words

16. character
17. cardinal
18. Oregon
19. particular
20. dinosaur

Challenge Words

a and u

16. _____

e and o

17. _____

e

19. _____

a

18. _____

o

20. _____



Home Activity Your child is learning to spell words with the schwa sound (an unstressed vowel sound such as the *a* in *above*). To practice at home, have your child say the word, study it, spell it with eyes closed, and then write it.

Schwa

Spelling Words

above	another	upon	animal	paper
open	family	travel	afraid	nickel
sugar	circus	item	gallon	melon

Context Clues Write the missing list word.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. May I have _____ piece of pizza? | 1. _____ |
| 2. I have three dimes and one _____ in my bank. | 2. _____ |
| 3. He was eating a slice of _____. | 3. _____ |
| 4. I wrote a letter on a sheet of green _____. | 4. _____ |
| 5. My _____ likes to watch football Sunday afternoons. | 5. _____ |
| 6. Please get a _____ of milk. | 6. _____ |
| 7. The _____ had clowns and acrobats. | 7. _____ |
| 8. Is the _____ bowl empty? | 8. _____ |
| 9. Each _____ on the list must be done by noon. | 9. _____ |
| 10. Once _____ a time, there was a handsome prince. | 10. _____ |
| 11. My favorite _____ is the giraffe. | 11. _____ |

Opposites Write the list word that means the opposite.

- | | |
|---------------|-------|
| 12. shut | _____ |
| 13. brave | _____ |
| 14. stay home | _____ |
| 15. below | _____ |

afraid

travel

above

open



Home Activity Your child spelled words with the schwa sound (an unstressed vowel sound such as the *a* in *above*). Have your child pick a number between 1 and 15. Read the list word with that number and ask your child to spell it.

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Spelling Words

above	another	upon	animal	paper
open	family	travel	afraid	nickel
sugar	circus	item	gallon	melon

Proofread a Description Jake wrote about an imaginary animal. Circle four words that are spelled incorrectly and two words that should be combined into one compound word. Write the words correctly.

My anamal looks like a lizard with opun wings. It has beutiful colors. It lives above the tree tops. For food it breaks open a mellon. It is not afraid of any thing.

Frequently Misspelled Words

upon
again
beautiful

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

Proofread Words Fill in a circle to show which word is spelled correctly. Write the word.

7. There was an _____ in the paper about our class. 7. _____
 itam itum item
8. Are you _____ you might get lost on the subway? 8. _____
 afraid ifraid afriad
9. There are five people in my _____. 9. _____
 family famaly familie
10. The candy cost a _____ each. 10. _____
 nicle nickle nickel



Home Activity Your child identified misspelled words with the schwa sound (an unstressed vowel sound such as the *a* in *above*). Give clues about a list word. Ask your child to guess and spell the word.

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Spelling Words

above	another	upon	animal	paper
open	family	travel	afraid	nickel
sugar	circus	item	gallon	melon

Crossword Puzzle

Write list words in the puzzle.

Across

- 2. something sweet
- 4. move from place to place
- 6. a large fruit
- 8. five cents

Down

- 1. You write on this.
- 3. four quarts
- 5. overhead
- 7. one more

Word Puzzle The stars in the words below all stand for one vowel. The hearts stand for a different vowel. Can you crack the code? Write the words.

- 9. ♥ f r ♥ * d _____
- 10. ♥ n * m ♥ l _____
- 11. f ♥ m * l y _____
- 12. * t e m _____



Home Activity Your child has been learning to spell words with the schwa sound. Help your child make up a code and use it to write list words.