



Silent Letters

Hidden in Plain Sight

Beginner: Point out words you come across that are spelled with silent letters.

[Tip]: Say "Hour is spelled with a silent h. Comb is spelled with a silent b."

Intermediate: Copy words you find in books spelled with silent letters, then circle the letter(s). Make new sentences using the underlined words.

[Tip]: For example: "The queen gave the knight a sword." Circle k, gh, and w.

New sentence: "The knight carried a sword."

Experienced: Find fifteen or more words spelled with silent letters, then write your own short story!

[Tip]: Look for words in your favourite book, then write your own new ending using the words you found!

Why is this important? Becoming familiar with words spelled with silent letters improves reading and writing skills.

References:

Ehri, L. C. (2022). What teachers need to know and do to teach letter-sounds, phonemic awareness, word reading, and phonics. *Reading Teacher*, 76(1), 53–61.