

# CODE READER™

## Making Difficult Words Easy

Code Reader Books provide codes with “sound keys” to help read difficult words. For example, a word that may be challenging to read is “chameleon,” so it might be followed by a code like this: chameleon (*kuh-MEE-lee-un*).

The codes use phonetic keys for each sound in the word. Knowing the keys can help make reading the codes easier.

### Code Reader™ Keys

Long a sound (as in make):

**a** (with a silent e) or **ay**

Examples: able (*AY-bul*);  
break (*brake*)

Short a sound (as in cat): **a**

Example: practice (*PRAK-tis*)

Long e sound (as in keep): **ee**

Example: complete (*kum-PLEET*)

Short e sound (as in set): **e** or **eh**

Examples: metric (*MEH-trik*);  
bread (*bred*)

Long i sound (as in by):

**i** (with a silent e) or **y**

Examples: might (*mite*);  
bicycle (*BY-sih-kul*)

Short i sound (as in sit): **i** or **ih**

Examples: myth (*mith*);  
condition (*kun-DIH-shun*)

Long u sound (as in cube): **yoo**

Example: unicorn (*YOO-nih-korn*)

Short u or schwa sound (as in cup):

**u** or **uh**

Examples: pension (*PEN-shun*);  
about (*uh-BOWT*)

Long o sound (as in hope):

**o** (with a silent e), **oh**,

or **o** at the end of a syllable

Examples: molten (*MOLE-ten*);  
ocean (*OH-shen*); nobody (*NO-bah-dee*)

Short o sound (as in top): **o** or **ah**

Examples: posture (*POS-chur*);  
bother (*BAH-ther*)

Long oo sound (as in cool): **oo**

Example: school (*skool*)

Short oo sound (as in look): **ōō**

Examples: wood (*wōōd*);  
could (*kōōd*)

oy sound (as in boy): **oy**

Example: boisterous (*BOY-stur-us*)

ow sound (as in cow): **ow**

Example: discount (*DIS-kownt*)

aw sound (as in paw): **aw**

Example: faucet (*FAW-sit*)

qu sound (as in quit): **kw**

Example: question (*KWES-chun*)

zh sound (as in garage): **zh**

Example: fission (*FIH-zhun*)