

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 30 • WORD-BUILDING SYNTHESIS

Systematic Word Families • -uff, -uck, -ump, -ush, -ock • Short ŭ & ȳ Contrast

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⌚ PHONICS & SPELLING RULES TO REMEMBER (WORD BUILDING)

RULE 1 • FLOSS RULE (-FF)

After a short vowel in a one-syllable word, the final /f/ is doubled: pŭff, cŭff, blŭff, snŭff.

RULE 2 • -CK DIGRAPH

Directly after a short vowel, use -ck for the /k/ sound: dŭck, trŭck, lȳck, clȳck.

RULE 3 • Ŭ VS. Ȳ CONTRAST

Notice minimal pairs: dŭck (short ŭ) vs. dȳck (short ȳ); lŭck vs. lȳck; stŭck vs. stȳck.

1 Form words by adding each rime to the onsets: Combine onset consonant + rime and write the word neatly:

-UFF FAMILY b + uff _____ c + uff _____ m + uff _____ p + uff _____ bl + uff _____ sn + uff _____	-UCK FAMILY d + uck _____ l + uck _____ cl + uck _____ pl + uck _____ st + uck _____ tr + uck _____	-UMP FAMILY j + ump _____ pl + ump _____ th + ump _____ d + ump _____ st + ump _____ cl + ump _____ tr + ump _____	-USH FAMILY g + ush _____ m + ush _____ br + ush _____ h + ush _____ bl + ush _____ pl + ush _____ thr + ush _____ cr + ush _____ sl + ush _____	-OCK FAMILY l + ock _____ d + ock _____ r + ock _____ st + ock _____ bl + ock _____ sh + ock _____ fl + ock _____ cl + ock _____
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2 Minimal Pair Contrast: Read each word pair aloud with a partner and check the correct vowel sound:

PAIR 1 duck ☐ ŭ	PAIR 2 luck ☐ ŭ	PAIR 3 stuck ☐ ŭ	PAIR 4 cluck ☐ ŭ
dock ☐ ȳ	lock ☐ ȳ	stock ☐ ȳ	clock ☐ ȳ

LESSON 30 • TEACHER ANSWER KEY & LINGUISTIC GUIDE

Master Word-Building Key (36 Words) • Orthographic Rules • Dictation Script

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KEY Master Word-Building Key (36 Words across 5 Families): Complete synthesis of onsets and rimes with diacritical marks.

RIME	ONSETS PROVIDED	SYNTHESIZED WORDS	MARKED OUTPUT	IPA	ORTHOGRAPHIC RATIONALE
-uff	b, c, m, p, bl, sn	buff, cuff, muff, puff, bluff, snuff	bŭff, cŭff, mŭff, pŭff, blŭff, snŭff	/ʌf/	FLOSS rule: geminate -ff after short ŭ; bl- and sn- blends
-uck	d, l, cl, pl, st, tr	duck, luck, cluck, pluck, stuck, truck	dŭck, lŭck, clŭck, plŭck, stŭck, trŭck	/ʌk/	-ck digraph mandatory after short ŭ; cl-, pl-, st-, tr- blends
-ump	j, pl, th, d, st, cl, tr	jump, plump, thump, dump, stump, clump, trump	jŭmp, plŭmp, thŭmp, dŭmp, stŭmp, clŭmp, trŭmp	/ʌmp/	Nasal-bilabial blend -mp; voiced affricate j- and voiceless th-
-ush	g, m, br, h, bl, pl, thr, cr, sl	gush, mush, brush, hush, blush, plush, thrush, crush, slush	gŭsh, mŭsh, brŭsh, hŭsh, blŭsh, plŭsh, thrŭsh, crŭsh, slŭsh	/ʌʃ/	Palato-alveolar fricative -sh; complex onsets thr-, bl-, br-, cr-, sl-
-ock	l, d, r, st, bl, sh, fl, cl	lock, dock, rock, stock, block, shock, flock, clock	lŏck, dŏck, rŏck, stŏck, blŏck, shŏck, flŏck, clŏck	/ɒk/	Short ŏ review! Contrasts with -uck; -ck digraph after short ŏ

MORPHO-PHONOLOGICAL & ORTHOGRAPHIC LOGIC (EDUCATOR REFERENCE)

- 1. Phonogram / Rime Synthesis Methodology:** Research demonstrates that teaching onset-rime blending accelerates word recognition much faster than isolated phoneme blending. Lesson 30 groups 36 words into 5 high-utility phonograms (*-uff, -uck, -ump, -ush, -ock*).
- 2. The Deliberate -uck vs. -ock Minimal Pair Design:** Wheeler intentionally introduces *-ock* alongside *-uck*. This allows the educator to contrast the lax short *ŭ* (/ʌ/ - STRUT) with short *ŏ* (/ɒ/ - LOT) across identical consonant frames (*duck/dock, luck/lock, stuck/stock, cluck/clock*).
- 3. Dual Consonant Codas:** In all 5 families, the codas consist of either geminate consonants (*-ff* via FLOSS rule), digraphs (*-ck, -sh*), or consonant blends (*-mp*), perfectly reinforcing the closed-syllable short-vowel principle.

CLASSROOM DICTATION SCRIPT (10 REPRESENTATIVE SENTENCES)

- cuff:** Roll up your coat *cuff* before washing.
- duck:** A mother *duck* swam across the quiet pond.
- truck:** The heavy *truck* rumbled down the farm road.
- jump:** Children love to run and *jump* in the grass.
- plump:** The robin found a *plump* worm in the garden.
- brush:** Please *brush* your hair neatly before school.
- blush:** Sweet roses have a delicate pink *blush*.
- lock:** Remember to *lock* the wooden gate tonight.
- dock:** Fishing boats rested safely at the wooden *dock*.
- clock:** The grandfather *clock* chimed five times.

DIAGNOSTIC SCORING RUBRIC (50 POINTS TOTAL)

Target Skill	Criteria for Mastery	Pts
Word Synthesis	All 36 words formed correctly from onset + rime.	/24
Spelling Accuracy	Double -ff, -ck digraph, and consonant blends preserved.	/12
Minimal Pair Check	Accurate identification of ŭ vs. ŏ in minimal pairs.	/8
Penmanship	Proper letter formation and neat baseline writing.	/6
TOTAL SCORE:		/50

COMMON STUDENT ERRORS TO ADDRESS:

- Writing single -f (*buf, *puf):** Remind students of the FLOSS rule.
- Confusing duck/dock:** Practice listening to the tongue position (/ʌ/ vs. /ɒ/).