Objective

The student will gain speed and accuracy in recognizing letter-sounds.

Materials

- Digraph-diphthong practice sheets (Activity Master F.002.AM1a - F.002.AM1b)
  
  **Digraphs presented are:** ay, ea, oa, au, ai, oo, ee, aw, ph, sh, th, ch, wh, kn, ck.
  **Diphthongs presented are:** oy, oi, ow, and ou.
  
  There are two versions of the sheets (i.e., 1 and 2). Students may use either one or both.
  
  **Note:** Some letter combinations have more than one sound (e.g., “ea” as in eat, head, break; “ow” as in now, row; “ou” as in out, four, you, country; “th” as in think, this; “oo” as in foot, boot, floor; “ch” as in chin, chorus, chivalry; “ai” as in bait and said).

  It is suggested that, when timing, students say only one sound per letter combination.

- Sounds correct per minute record (Activity Master F.001.AM2)
- Timer (e.g., digital)
- Pencils

Activity

Students take turns identifying digraphs and diphthongs in a timed activity.

1. Place the digraph-diphthong practice sheets and timer at the center. Provide each student with a sounds correct per minute record.
2. Taking turns, students practice reading the digraphs and diphthongs aloud to each other.
3. Student one sets the timer for one minute and tells student two to “begin.”
4. Student two reads across the page while student one follows on his copy and uses a Vis-à-Vis® marker to mark any digraphs and diphthongs that are read incorrectly. If all on the sheet are read, go back to the top and continue reading. Continues until timer goes off.
5. Student one marks the last digraph or diphthong read and counts the number read correctly.
6. Student two records the number of digraphs or diphthongs read correctly on his record.
7. Repeat the activity at least two more times attempting to increase speed and accuracy.
8. Reverse roles.
9. Peer evaluation

Extensions and Adaptations

- Use the mixed letter-sound, digraph, diphthong sheet 3 (Activity Master F.002.AM2).
- Say all possible sounds during the timing for the digraphs (i.e., ea, ow, ou, th, oo, ch, ai).
- Use teacher-made practice sheets with repeating words containing target digraphs and diphthongs (e.g., meat, wheat, seal, mean, treat, seal, meat, treat, wheat, mean).
1.  ay   ea   oa   wh   ow  
    au   ou   ch   ai   sh  
    oi   th   oo   ck   ee  
    oa   ph   oy   aw   ea  
    wh   ow   kn   ay   sh  
    au   ch   ai   ck   ou  
    ch   oo   ck   ee   oi  
    kn   aw   ea   ay   wh  
    ai   au   ck   th   ou  
    ea   sh   oa   ow   ee  
    oi   aw   ch   ck   ea  
    ay   sh   oa   oy   ph
2. au ou ch ai sh
   oa ph oy aw ea
   ch kn ck ee oi
   ph aw ea ay wh
   ai au ck th ou
   oi th oo ck ee
   ay ea oa wh ow
   au ou ch ai sh
   wh ow oa kn ch
   ck ou ph ck aw
   oo wh oi sh ay
   ee ay au th ea
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.</th>
<th>m</th>
<th>oo</th>
<th>aw</th>
<th>o</th>
<th>ay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ck</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>sh</td>
<td>z</td>
<td>oi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>ea</td>
<td>ay</td>
<td>w</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>au</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>u</td>
<td>ow</td>
<td>wh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>ou</td>
<td>h</td>
<td>j</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ai</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>e</td>
<td>ph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>au</td>
<td>k</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>oy</td>
<td>sh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>ai</td>
<td>ee</td>
<td>oa</td>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kn</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>oy</td>
<td>ch</td>
<td>ou</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aw</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>sh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>aw</td>
<td>p</td>
<td>ea</td>
<td>h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>