

# Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

## Sorting Silent Letters

Congratulations on your purchase of **Really Good Literacy Center-in-a-Bag™ Sorting Silent Letters**, a great way for early learners to practice common silent letters, an important phonics skill, through a familiar activity.

### Objective

Students identify silent letters in words.

#### This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- 60 Learning Deck Cards™
- Center Task Card
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Silent letters appear in words, but are not pronounced. These variant correspondences present a challenge in reading and spelling, especially when students try to guess how to spell a word.

In English, there are several letters that are often silent. Comparing words in which these letters are silent with words in which they are voiced helps students see spelling patterns and increase their vocabulary. Use **Sorting Silent Letters** after students know silent **e**, which is part of the most common long vowel pattern, CVCe.

Some letters that are considered “silent” actually play a voiced role in a digraph, helping to create a new sound that would be impossible without it (e.g., **th**). However, **Sorting Silent Letters** covers only letters that are voiced or have a completely silent role in the word, for example, the **k** in *know* or the **t** in *listen*).

The *Learning Deck Cards™* have words with one letter in green. Students will determine if the green letter is silent or not.

#### Managing the Center-in-a-Bag™

- To make sorting neater and more visible, provide a *Desktop Pocket Chart and Stand*, which can be propped up on the table.
- Display the *Center Task Card*.
- Demonstrate how to tidy the center when the activity is complete.
- Store the center materials in the bag and hang it alongside other *Centers-in-a-Bag™*.

#### Introducing *Sorting Silent Letters*

Explore silent letters with your students. Compare words with a green letter that is pronounced to words that have the same letter, but silent. Then mix in words that have different letters in green.

Demonstrate sorting words. Take a *Card*, say the word aloud, and determine if the green letter belongs in the “silent” or “not silent” category. When several *Cards* have been sorted, have students help you read the words in each column to reinforce the concept.

### Center Task Card

Post this at the literacy center in a visible position. The student or helper can refer to the *Center Task Card* for instructions. Refer to the shaded section at the top of the *Card* for center preparation, including needed materials.

### Meeting State Standards

This type of practice in silent letters helps students meet grade-level expectations and prepare for standardized testing. **Sorting Silent Letters** can also help improve spelling skills and increase students’ vocabulary.

#### Sorting Silent Letters Activity

One or more students

*Object:* To sort words by silent and not silent letters

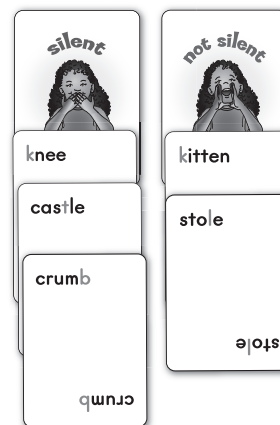
*Materials:* Learning Deck Cards™, Center Task Card

1. Put the category *Cards* at the top of the sorting surface or pocket chart.
2. Shuffle the rest of the *Cards* and place them face down in a stack.
3. Take a word *Card* and read the word.
4. Is the green letter in the word silent, or does it make a sound? Put the *Card* in the correct column on your mat. Continue until all the *Cards* are used.
5. Have someone check your work.

For two or more students, take turns.

#### Extension:

Students record the words on the *Sorting Grid Reproducible*. They circle the silent letters.



#### Related Really Good Stuff® Product

4-Column Desktop Pocket Chart and Stand (item #302214)

All activity guides can be found online:

Circle the silent letters.

<b>silent</b>	<b>not silent</b>