

## RELIABLE SPELLING PATTERNS

### Initial and Medial Consonant Sounds:

- /k/ before e, i, or y is spelled k (*keep, kite, sky*)
- /k/ before a, o, u, or any consonant is spelled c (*cat, cot, cut, clap, crash*)
- /j/ before e, i, or y is spelled g (*gem, giant, gym*)
- /j/ before a, o, or u is spelled j (*jam, joke, junk*)
- /s/ after a vowel and before e, i, or y is spelled c (*grocer, recede*)

### Final Consonant Sounds:

- /k/ after a short vowel in a one-syllable base word is spelled ck (*pack, sock*)
- /k/ after a short vowel in a word with two or more syllables is spelled c (*music, public*)
- /k/ after a vowel pair or consonant is spelled k (*peek, milk*)
- /j/ after a short vowel in a one-syllable base word is spelled dge (*badge, fudge*)
- /j/ after a vowel pair, long vowel, or consonant is spelled ge (*scrooge, cage, bulge*)

### Initial and Medial Vowel Sounds:

- /ā/ before a final consonant sound is spelled a-consonant-e (*cake, rotate*)
- /ā/ at the end of a syllable is spelled a (*table, canine*)
- /ē/ is spelled ee (*eel, meet, green*)
- /ē/ at the end of a syllable is spelled e (*even, equal*)
- /ē/ before a final consonant sound in a multisyllabic words is spelled e-consonant-e (*recede, supreme*)
- /ū/ before a final consonant sound is spelled u-consonant-e (*use, cube*)
- /ū/ at the end of a syllable is spelled u (*unit, music*)
- /oi/ is spelled oi (*joint, appoint*)
- /ou/ is spelled ou (*round, astound*)

### Final Vowel Sounds:

- /ā/ is spelled ay (*day, decay*)
- /ī/ is spelled y (*try, reply*)
- /ō/ is spelled ow (*show, window*)
- /ē/ in a one syllable word is spelled ee (*see, free*)
- /ē/ in a word of two or more syllables is spelled y (*candy, ugly*)
- /ū/ at the end of a word is spelled a (*tuba, sofa*)
- /oi/ is spelled oy (*boy, destroy*)
- /ou/ is spelled ow (*cow, endow*)

## SPELLING RULES

The **Doubling Rule** is illustrated with:

*hopped* (*hop* + *ed*)  
*running* (*run* + *ing*)  
*reddish* (*red* + *ish*)  
*beginner* (*begin* + *er*).

All the base words end in one vowel and one consonant. The accent falls on the final syllable. (All one-syllable words are accented.) To each base word, a suffix that begins with a vowel (a vowel suffix) is added. With the checkpoints of 1) one vowel, 2) one consonant, 3) one accent, and 4) a vowel suffix, students know to double the final consonant of the base word before adding the suffix. If any checkpoint is missing, the final consonant will not need to be doubled.

The **Doubling Rule** is illustrated with:

*hoping* (*hope* + *ing*)  
*named* (*name* + *ed*)  
*recliner* (*recline* + *er*).

All the base words end in final e. To each base word, a suffix that begins with a vowel is added. With the checkpoints of 1) final e and 2) a vowel suffix, students know to drop the final e at the end of each base word before adding the suffix. If either checkpoint is missing, the final e does not need to be dropped.

The **Changing Rule** and is illustrated with:

*cries* (*cry* + *es*)  
*happiness* (*happy* + *ness*)  
*penniless* (*penny* + *less*).

All the base words end in final y and a consonant before the y. To each base word, a suffix that does not begin with an *i* is added. With the checkpoints of 1) final y, 2) a consonant before the final y, and 3) a suffix that does not begin with *i*, students know to change the y to *i* before adding the suffix. If any checkpoint is missing, the final y does not need to be changed to *i*.