

Support for English Learners

Unit 15, page 102: Vowel + /r/ Sounds in nurse

Some students may have difficulty identifying and pronouncing the /ûr/ sounds in words with *ur*, *or*, *ir*, and *er* spellings.

Listen

Say: *Let's listen to some Basic Words with the /ûr/ sounds: nurse, word, bird, serve. The letters ur in nurse are pronounced /ûr/: /ûrrr/, nûrrse, nurse. Repeat with word, bird, and serve.*

Now remind students that the vowel + /r/ sounds in the Basic Word *north* are pronounced /ôr/. Model the contrast between the /ûr/ sounds in *nurse* and the /ôr/ sounds in *north*. Say: *Let's listen to two different vowel + /r/ sounds, the /ûr/ sounds in nurse and the /ôr/ sounds in north. Say /ûr/, elongate the /ûr/ sounds alone and as part of the word nurse, then say nurse. Say /ôr/, elongate the /ôr/ sounds alone and as part of north, then say north.*

Speak and Read

Say: *Let's practice some words with the /ûr/ sounds: nurse, word, bird, serve.* Have students touch their throats in order to feel the vibrations caused when pronouncing the vowel + /r/ sounds. Following the procedure described above, have a student model the contrast between the /ûr/ sounds in *nurse* and the /ôr/ sounds in *north*.

Write *nurse*, *word*, *bird*, and *serve* on the board. Underline the spelling of the vowel + /r/ sounds in each word. Say: *The vowel + /r/ sounds can be spelled u-r, o-r, i-r, or e-r.*

Spell

Beginning/Preproduction Write *dirt*, *first*, *hurt*, *turn*, *serve*, and *work* on the board. Have students come to the board and circle the vowel + r spelling in each word. Have them copy the words into their word-study notebooks.

Early Production/Speech Emergent Write the Basic Words *dirt*, *first*, *hurt*, *turn*, *serve*, and *work* on the board. Distribute letter cards for *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*, *d*, *r*, *t*, *f*, *s*, *h*, *n*, *v*, *w*, and *k*. Have students use the cards to spell the words. Have volunteers take turns reading their words aloud, emphasizing the spelling of the vowel + /r/ sounds in each word.

Intermediate/Advanced Read aloud the Basic Words *dirt*, *first*, *girl*, *hurt*, *turn*, *nurse*, *serve*, *word*, and *work*. Have students write them in their word-study notebooks. Have students underline the spelling of the vowel + /r/ sounds in each word. Ask volunteers to write the words on the board. Have them take turns reading the words aloud, pointing out the spelling of the vowel + /r/ sounds and elongating the vowel + /r/ sounds in each word.

Sort

Copy the chart below on the board. Ask volunteers to write the Basic Words *word*, *bird*, *serve*, *nurse*, *curly*, *worry*, and *shirt* in the appropriate column on the chart. Then have students say a sentence for each word.

Vowel + /r/ Sounds in nurse			
<i>ur</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>ir</i>	<i>er</i>