Some students may have difficulty differentiating between the short o and long o sounds.

**Listen**

Say: The /ɔ/ sound in block is called the short o sound. Let’s listen to the short o sound in the Basic Word block: /ɔl/, /ɔl/ /ɔl/ /ɔl/, blööck, block. Ask: What short vowel does the Basic Word block have?

Remind students that the /ɔ/ sound in coast is called the long o sound. Say: Let’s listen to the long o sound in the Basic Word coast. Say: /ɔl/, /ɔl/ /ɔl/ /ɔl/, cöööst, coast.

Continue with the short o sound, and the long o sound, using the Basic Words shock/wrote and odd/slope.

**Speak and Read**

Say: Let’s practice saying the short o sound in the Basic Word block together: /ɔl/, /ɔl/ /ɔl/ /ɔl/, blööck, block. Have a volunteer repeat after you and model the pronunciation of the short o sound in block. Continue with the long o sound in the Basic Word coast.

Write block on the board and circle the o. Say: The short o sound, /ɔl/, is usually spelled o followed by a consonant sound.

Write the Basic Words coast, shown, host, and slope on the board. Circle oa, ow, o, and oe. Say: The long o sound, /ɔl/, can be spelled o-a, o-w, o, and o-consonant-e.

**Spell**

**Beginning/Preproduction** Create word cards for the Basic Words block, solve, shown, coast, locate, and wrote. Divide the board into two sections. On one side, write bl_ck and s_ive. On the other side, write sh_ n, c_st, l_ate, and wr_t_. Have volunteers match the cards with the words on the board and write in the missing letters. Then have them read the words aloud, emphasizing the short o or long o sound.

**Early Production/Speech Emergent** On the board, write the Basic Words block, solve, shown, coast, locate, and wrote. Have students copy the words into their word-study notebooks and circle the short o and long o spellings.

**Intermediate/Advanced** Create word cards for the Basic Words odd, block, solve, stock, shown, coast, locate, and wrote. Draw a T-Chart on the board with the headings Short o Sound and Long o Sound. Have students tape each card under the correct heading.