

Name _____

Schwa Syllable Sort Answer Key

- lemon - **first**
- dragon - **second**
- cabin - **second**
- music - **second**
- pilot - **first**
- salad - **second**
- pencil - **first**
- color - **first**
- major - **second**
- wagon - **first**
- robot - **first**
- family - **first** (schwa in the second syllable only in some dialects, but for Grades 3-4 schwa is taught in the first syllable)
- camera - **second**
- cactus - **second**
- planet - **first**

Teacher's Guide

- Review that the schwa sound often appears in unstressed syllables. Have students clap each word to hear which part sounds weaker.
- Model two sample words by reading them with exaggerated stress to help students identify where the schwa occurs.
- Provide scaffolds by guiding students to lightly underline the syllable they think is unstressed before choosing first or second.
- For extension, have students create a two-column list of their own multi-syllable schwa words or read a short paragraph and highlight any schwa syllables they hear.