Letter teams: answers and notes

What your child practised: reading the vowel digraphs ay, oy, ou, ir and aw as one sound (Year 1 phonics).

Page 1 · Warm up

d**ay** · t**oy** · **ou**t · g**ir**l · s**aw**

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. For example: ay **play**, oy **toy**, ou **shout**, ir **first**, aw **claw**.

Page 2 · A. Ring the team

h**ou**se · sh**ir**t · s**aw** · tr**ay** · t**oy**

Page 3 · B. Missing team

m**ou**se · g**ir**l · p**aw** · cr**ay**on · b**oy**

Page 3 · C. Read and draw

A **cloud** and a **bird**. If the drawing matches, the word was read correctly.

Page 3 · D. Ring the word

toy · **shirt** · **paw** · **cloud**

How the teams sound: ay as in **day** · oy as in **boy** · ou as in **out** · ir as in **girl** · aw as in **saw**. Say the sound short and clear, without adding "uh".

Challenge: No. The o and y are a team, so they make one sound: **b – oy**, boy. Two sounds, not three. Ask your child to draw a line under oy and a dot under b, then read it.

Watch out for

- **Reading each letter on its own** (b-o-y). Cover the word and show just the team, say its sound, then uncover the rest.
- **Mixing up teams**, such as oy and ou. Use a picture word for each: oy as in **boy**, ou as in **cloud**.
- **Saying letter names** instead of sounds. Model the pure sound, then blend.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **I spy a team:** "I spy something with ou in it..." (cloud, mouse, house).
- **Silly sentences:** make one up with lots of oy: "The boy has a toy."
- **In the game:** Chapter 2 meets more teams: ue, ew, ie, oe, and the three-letter teams are and ore.