

Decodify™ Lesson Plan

Level 5 Syllable Seekers: Open Syllables & Exceptions

Instructional Note

Decodify™ is a supplemental structured literacy toolkit, not a replacement for a school's or district's core reading program (e.g., Wilson®, Orton-Gillingham, or other research-based curricula). It is designed as a premium support tool that:

- Reinforces foundational and advanced literacy skills through structured play.
- Aligns with the Science of Reading and the five pillars of literacy.
- Integrates seamlessly with Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3+ instruction.
- Provides teachers with ready-to-use lesson plans, progress monitoring tools, and student-friendly activities.

Decodify™ should be used in conjunction with existing curricula to enhance decoding, morphology, vocabulary, comprehension, and language development.

Skill Level Focus

Open syllables with long vowels

Duration

30–40 minutes

Lesson Objectives

- Decode and practice words aligned to the level's skill focus.
- Strengthen phonological awareness, morphology, spelling/word patterns, language development, and vocabulary through card-based prompts.
- Answer and discuss structured-literacy prompts to deepen comprehension and connections to word meaning.
- Apply executive function skills (turn-taking, flexible thinking, self-monitoring) during play.
- Build confidence with the targeted decoding and word-analysis strategy.

Materials Suggested

- Decodify™ Level 5 deck
- Teacher Toolkit (skill reference & prompts)
- Answer Key
- Student Progress Monitoring Observation Sheet
- Progress Monitoring Data Sheet

Standards Alignment

Aligned to Common Core State Standards:

1. Language Standard L.4 (all grades): Determine/clarify meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases, including use of affixes and roots.
2. Language Standard L.5 (grades 3–12): Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.
3. Reading Foundational Skills (K–5 or where developmentally appropriate):
 - RF.K.2, RF.K.3 – Phonological awareness and basic phonics/word recognition
 - RF.1–5.3 – Phonics and word analysis in decoding words
 - RF.1–5.4 – Reading with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

Lesson Procedure

1. Prepare (2–4 minutes)
 - Review previously taught skill(s).
 - Practice 2–3 sample words from today's focus (e.g., tiger, bonus, human).
2. Rules of Decodify™ (2–3 minutes)
 - Briefly review Decodify™ rules.
 - Connect today's focus skill to the deck.

3. Practice (20–25 minutes)

- Students take turns drawing cards and responding to prompts.
- The teacher participates or observes and records notes (student strategies, problem areas, etc).
- The teacher should encourage students to use strategies taught, including: syllable division, vowel sounds, tapping out, etc.
- Group Size Guidance:
 - 1 student → Teacher plays 1:1
 - 2 students → Practice until one student plays all cards.
 - 3–4 students → Practice until two students play all cards.
 - 5–6 students → Practice until three students play all cards.
 - Students who are “out” help monitor peers for accuracy.

Note: Student Observation Sheets and Progress Monitoring Data Sheets can be downloaded from [decodifylearning.com](https://www.decodifylearning.com), allowing teachers to collect data and monitor progress.

4. Wrap up: Reflection + Skill Connection (5–7 minutes)

- Students share one decoding strategy or challenge.
- The teacher highlights one key literacy pattern, rule, or exception.

Differentiation & Troubleshooting Tips

- Encourage peer coaching: If a student is stuck, prompt them to ask a peer for clues/help.
- Possible prompts for struggling students:
 - “How many syllables do you hear?”
 - “Try tapping out the sounds.”
 - “Do you see any word parts that you recognize?”
 - “What does the vowel say in this type of syllable?”
- For more ways to use Decodify™ or to share how you differentiate, visit [decodifylearning.com](https://www.decodifylearning.com).

SEL Connection

With Decodify™, students naturally practice:

- Taking turns and listening actively
- Encouraging peers and offering respectful corrections
- Managing frustration with tricky words
- Developing perseverance and a growth mindset
- Building peer-to-peer and teacher-to-student relationships

MTSS/IEP Alignment (Teacher Notes)

- Tier 1 – Whole class skill practice
- Tier 2 – Targeted small group intervention
- Tier 3+ – Intensive 1:1 support or support in a resource setting

Focus IEP Goals/Benchmarks (if applicable):
