

## Para empezar

Fecha \_\_\_\_\_

## Guided Practice Activities P-1

## Vowel sounds

Like English, Spanish has five basic vowels, **a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, and **u**. But unlike English, each Spanish vowel sounds nearly the same in every word, which will help you figure out how to pronounce any Spanish word you see.

**A.** The letter **a** is pronounced "ah," as in the English word "father." Write three Spanish words related to *body parts (el cuerpo)* that contain the letter **a**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **a**.

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**B.** The letter **e** is pronounced "ay," as in the English word "pay." Write three Spanish *numbers under ten* that contain the letter **e**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **e**.

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**C.** The letter **i** is pronounced "ee," as in the English word "see." Write two Spanish words used in *greetings* that contain the letter **i**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **i**.

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**D.** The letter **o** is pronounced "oh," as in the English word "go." Write three Spanish *numbers over ten* that contain the letter **o**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **o**.

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**E.** The letter **u** is pronounced "oo," as in the English word "zoo." Write three Spanish words that you've learned so far that contain the letter **u**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **u**.

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**Para empezar**

**The letter c**

The letter c has two different sounds in Spanish. When it is followed by a, o, u, or any consonant other than h, it is a "hard c" and is pronounced like the c in "cat." Say these words with a hard c:

cómo      cómodo      cántico      cantado

When the letter c is followed by e or i, it is a "soft c" and is pronounced like the s in "Sally." Say these words with a soft c:

doce      gracias      silcio

**A.** Write out the numbers below (which all contain at least one letter c) in Spanish on the blanks provided.

1. 4 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 0 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 13 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 100 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 11 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 5 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 16 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 14 \_\_\_\_\_
9. 55 \_\_\_\_\_
10. 48 \_\_\_\_\_

**B.** Now, say aloud each of the words you wrote, paying special attention to the letter c. Go back to the answers you gave in **part A** and underline each hard c (as in cat). Circle each soft c (as in Sally). **Ojo:** Some words contain more than one c.

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## Guided Practice Activities P-3

## More c sounds

In Activity P-2 you learned that the letter c has two different sounds in Spanish: "hard c" and "soft c." The "hard c" sound is also created by the letter groups **que** and **qui**. **Que** is always pronounced like the English "kay" and **qui** is always pronounced like the English word "key." Say these words:

quince      que      quiere

**A.** Remember that the hard c is sometimes spelled with a c and sometimes with a q. Underline the words in each group below with a hard c ("cat") sound. Say each word aloud as you read it.

1. clase / García / doce
2. trece / cien / carpeta
3. equis / cierran / dieciséis
4. gracias / saquen / Cecilia
5. cero / silencio / catorce
6. once / cuaderno / diciembre

**B.** Circle the words in each group with a soft c ("Sally") sound. Say each word aloud as you read it.

1. Ricardo / cuarto / atención
2. diciembre / cómo / octubre
3. carpeta / cuaderno / Alicia
4. qué / quiere / decir
5. cien / Cristina / cuántos
6. saquen / cierran / capítulo

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## Guided Practice Activities P-4

The *h* sound

In Spanish, some letters have different pronunciations than they do in English. For example, the letter *j* is pronounced like the letter *h* in the English word "hat," but even more strongly and in the back of the throat. The letter *g*, when followed by *e* or *i*, also has the same "h" sound. However, the Spanish letter *h* is always silent! Say these words aloud:

Jorge    jueves    hay    hasta    hoja

**A.** Circle all of the words below with a *pronounced* "h" sound. Don't be fooled by the silent letter *h*! Say each word aloud as you read it.

julio	<del>hoy</del>	<del>hasta</del>
<del>hoja</del>	Jorge	Juan
junio	Guillermo	<del>hora</del>
José	página	<del>hay</del>
juego	<del>¡Hola!</del>	Eugenia

**B.** Now, go back to the words in **part A** and draw a diagonal line through every silent *h*. The first one has been done for you. Did you notice that **hoja** has both a silent *h* and a *j* that has a *pronounced* "h" sound?

## Special letters

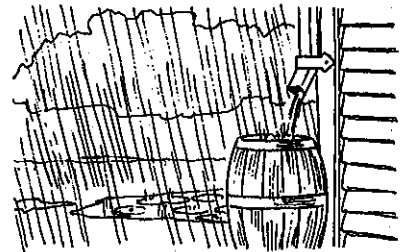
When studying the alphabet, you will notice a few letters that you may not have seen before. In addition to the letters we have in English, Spanish also has *ll*, *ñ*, and *rr*.

- ll* is pronounced like a "y" in English, as in the word "yellow."
- ñ* is pronounced like the combination "ny," as in the English word "canyon."
- rr* is a "rolled" sound in Spanish. It is made by letting your tongue vibrate against the roof of your mouth, and sounds a bit like a cat purring or a child imitating the sound of a helicopter.

Look at the pictures below and fill in the blanks in the words or phrases with either the letter *ll*, *ñ*, or *rr*. Be sure to say each word aloud as you write it, practicing the sounds of the new letters.



1. Es la se \_\_\_\_\_ ora Guité \_\_\_\_\_ ez.



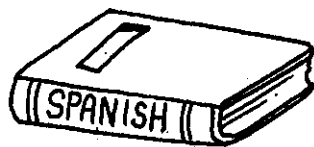
4. \_\_\_\_\_ ueve en la primavera.



2. Me \_\_\_\_\_ amo Gui \_\_\_\_\_ ermo.



5. Hace viento en el oto \_\_\_\_\_ o.



3. Es el libro de espa \_\_\_\_\_ ol.

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## Guided Practice Activities P-6

**The letters *b* and *v***

In Spanish, the letters **b** and **v** are both pronounced with a “b” sound, like in the English word “boy.” This makes pronunciation simple, but can make spelling more challenging! Say the following words:

Buenos días. ¡Nos vemos! brazo veinte bolígrafo verano

The phrases below all contain either **b** or **v**. Pronounce both with a “b” sound, and write the correct letter in the blanks in each conversation.

1. —Hola, profesor.  
—\_\_\_\_uenos días, estudiantes.
2. —¿Qué tiempo hace en el otoño?  
—Hace \_\_\_\_iento.
3. En fe\_\_\_\_ero hace mucho frío.  
—Sí, hace frío en el in\_\_\_\_ierno.
4. —¿Qué tiempo hace en la prima\_\_\_\_era?  
—Llue\_\_\_\_e pero hace calor.
5. —¿Qué día es hoy?  
—Hoy es el \_\_\_\_einte de no \_\_\_\_iembre.
6. —Le\_\_\_\_ántense, por fa\_\_\_\_or.  
—Sí, profesora.
7. —¿Cómo estás?  
—\_\_\_\_ien, pero me duele el \_\_\_\_razo.