

The second lesson about diphthongs should show that when two girls come together they sometimes sing a duet. When they do this they make a real diphthong or a proper diphthong, each making a sound and uniting these sounds into one sound. By taking out, pout, our, sour, flour, count, oil, soil, toil, etc., the teacher will be able to show the children in one short lesson that the girls in "ou" and "oi," when they come together sing a duet. By sounding "o" and "u" in quick succession the sound of "ou" will be produced, and by sounding "o" and "i" in quick succession the sound of "oi" will be produced. When "w" and "y" come after "o" they sing duets with "o" just as "u" and "i" do.

Nearly all the proper diphthongs are formed by uniting the sound of "o" with that of another vowel, either "i" or "u", or "y" and "w" taking the place of "i" and "u", so that children will very easily learn to distinguish the duets from the solos when two girls come together. The diphthongs "ou" and "ow" occasionally sing solos and not duets, as in slow, grow, snow, ought, etc.

The diphthong "eu" or "ew" in such words as "feud," or "new," may be taught as a duet by the union of long "e" and "oo," but a long "u" is a diphthong itself made by the union of long "e" and "oo" the diphthong "eu" or "ew" may be regarded as a solo in which the second girl speaks instead of the first.

The diphthong "ie" is peculiar. Both letters do not speak at the same time, but sometimes "i" speaks and sometimes "e". In words of one syllable ending with "e", such as pie, tie, etc., the "i" follows the general rule and does the speaking;