

The **Vowel Valley** below, shows vowel phonemes (and their graphemes) according to their proximity in articulation. For example, the long e sound (as in "see" and "these") is produced similarly to the short i sound (as in "sit" and "gym.") Vowel phonemes that are close in articulation are easily confused. Teachers can become more aware of student confusion by becoming familiar with the possible confusions. The images can also help draw students' attention to the differences.



DC READING CLINIC

The Vowel Valley

(Moats, 2010)



Front, smile

e

see
these
me
eat
key
happy
chief
either

i

sit
gym

a

make
rain
play
baby
eight
vein
great
they

e

pet
head

a

cat

i

time
pie
right
rifle
by
buy
heist

o

fox
father
palm

u

cup
cover
flood
tough
among

aw

saw
pause
call
water
daughter
thought

o

vote
doe
boat
snow
open
old
go
though

oo

took
put
could

u

moo
tude
blue
chew
ruby
suit

Back, rounded



oi/oy

oil, boy

ou/ow

cow, out, bough

ir

sir

er

her

ur

fur

ar

car

or

pour, or



Low, open