

tier 3 | phase 2 | unit 11



words with <ear>

<ear>		
/ur/	/air/	/ar/
ear l y	b ear	h ear k e n
ear n	p ear	h ear t
ear th	s w ear	h ear th
h ear d	t ear	
l ear n	w ear	
p ear l		
r e h ear se		
r e s ear ch		
s ear ch		
y ear n		

teaching notes

<ear> is a three-letter spelling that most commonly represents /ear/:

a | ppear beard clear dear ear fear gear hear near spear tear year

This unit draws attention to three alternate pronunciations of <ear>.

The most common of these alternate pronunciations is /ur/ (earn, earth, search) although this still occurs in a small number of words. /air/ (bear, pear, swear) is less common still, occurring in only six words and their derivatives. And /ar/ (hear | ken, heart, hearth) is the rarest, occurring in only three words and their derivatives.

Draw attention to tear. It is a heteronym (a word that has two pronunciations and meanings, but one spelling) and can be pronounced /t/ /eer/ or /t/ /air/.

You might sort words into the various pronunciations of <ear> including the three target pronunciations, /ur/, /air/ and /ar/ alongside the more common /eer/. A word sort is included for this purpose. There is no pattern to be found other than that /eer/ is by far the most common pronunciation of <ear>.

MAP MATCH



words with <ear>

Match each word to a map.
Say the word clearly in a spelling voice.
Copy the word onto the word map.
Say each sound as you write the spelling.

bear early earth heard heart

learn pear search swear tear

1	— —	2	— — —
3	— — —	4	— — —
5	— — —	6	— —
7	— —	8	— — —
9	— —	10	— — —

WORD SORT



Which sound does <ear> represent in these words?

appear bear beard clear early earth heard heart
learn pear rehearse search spear swear tear

/eer/	/ur/	/air/	/ar/

pattern

sounds & syllables

the sensible spelling system

say snip sound & say spell & say target	b ear	b e a r	say snip sound & say spell & say target	say snip sound & say spell & say target	say snip sound & say spell & say target
h ear t	h e a r t				
p ear	p e a r				
h ear d	h e a r d				
l ear n	l e a r n				
t ear	t e a r				
s ear ch	s e a r c h				
s w ear	s w e a r				
ear th	e a r t h				
ear l y	e a r l y				