

# Focus on the Foundation

Grade  
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Issue #11 January 6, 2020

Unit 5 Lesson 21 and Lesson 22

## Weekly Skills: Phonics & Grammar

Lesson

21

**Phonics:** R-controlled vowels ar, or, ore

**Phonograms:** -ar, -ore

**Grammar:** Subject Pronouns

**Decodables:** *Mark Shark, Clark's Part, At the Store, and More Fun for Jake*

## Content

**New!** Journeys Foundational Skills PPT [Lesson 21](#)

**New!** Decodable Reader [Lesson 21](#)

**Phonics:** When a vowel is followed by an r, the r changes the sound that the vowel makes. The vowel is called an **r-controlled** vowel. Sometimes its referred as the “bossy r” because the r “bosses” the vowel to make a new sound.

A **phonogram** (or word family) is a letter (or series of letters) that stands for a sound, syllable, or series of sounds without reference to meaning.

**Grammar:** A **subject pronoun** is exactly what it sounds like: a pronoun that takes the place of a noun as the subject of a sentence.

## Instructional Strategies

### [Pirate Song for “ar” and “or”](#)

View the video and have students sort or and ar words.

### [Bat the Ball!](#)

This interactive whole group activity allows students to brainstorm r-Controlled words and more!

**Grammar:** Have students take turns making a statement about someone in class but using a pronoun instead of their name. For example, students might say things like this: He has on red sneakers. I sit behind her. They went on a field trip last week. I saw a movie with her.

## Work Stations/Small Groups

### [Word Family House for r-Controlled Words](#)

Students read the decodable readers and create word families for ar, or, and ore.

### [Bossy r Phonogram Activities!](#)

Students can engage in several workstation activities: word sorts, picture-word match, sentence writing, sentence reading and writing activities.

**Grammar:** Students work with a partner. One student dictates a simple sentence with a noun in the subject. The partner rewrites the sentence replacing the noun with the appropriate pronoun. Students reverse roles.

## Weekly Skills: Phonics & Grammar

Lesson

22

**Phonics:** R-Controlled Vowels – er, ir, ur

**Grammar:** Pronouns I and Me

**Decodable:** *See the Birds, A Bath for Mert, Fox and Crow, and Meet Gert*

## Content

**New!** Journeys Foundational Skills PPT [Lesson 22](#)

**New!** Decodable Reader [Lesson 22](#)

**Phonics:** When a vowel comes before an 'r' the vowel sound is changed. 'er' makes the /r/ sound, and so do 'ir' and 'ur'. When the /r/ sound is at the end of a 2 or more syllable word, the sound is usually spelled with the 'er', but there is no rule of when to use 'ir' and 'ur'

**Grammar:** Both **I** and **me** are 1st person singular **pronouns**, which means that they are used by one person to refer to himself or herself. **I** is the subject **pronoun**, used for the one "doing" the verb, as in these examples: I am studying for a test.

## Instructional Strategies

### [R-Controlled Vowel Activities](#)

Students engage in activities to practice the r-controlled vowels

### [Jack Hartman Bossy r Video!](#)

Provide each student with a trifold sheet of paper and have them sort er, ir, and ur words.

### [Park the Car – Bossy r Game!](#)

Print the game board and cards. Have students decide which bossy r sounds he or she hears in the word and park the car in the parking spot that matches the sound card.

## Work Stations/Small Groups

### [Go Fish R-Controlled Activity](#)

Students play go fish to practice reading words with letter combinations: er, ur, ar, or, and ir.

### [Starfall R-Controlled Sorting Game!](#)

Students play an interactive word sorting game.

### [Bossy R Phonogram Activities!](#)

Students engage in several workstation activities: word sorts, picture-word match, sentence writing, sentence reading and writing activities.

**Grammar:** Students write sentences using pronouns I and me.