

Vowel Team **ai**

GRADE 2 · PHONICS

When a and i team up, they make the long /ā/ sound — like in rain

Name: _____

Date: _____

1 Add the vowel team **ai**. Write the new word on the line.

1. r ___ n → ___ 2. tr ___ n → ___ 3. m ___ l → ___

4. p ___ nt → ___ 5. sn ___ l → ___ 6. ch ___ n → ___

2 Circle the words that have the **ai** vowel team.

- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|---------|
| 1. rain | 2. cat | 3. trail | 4. hand |
| 5. paint | 6. ran | 7. wait | 8. sand |

3 Read each sentence aloud. Circle every **ai** word.

1. The rain fell on the trail all day.
2. I will wait for the train at the station.
3. A snail left mail in the paint can.

4 Look at each picture. Write the **ai** word.



Answer Key — Vowel Team **ai**

For teachers and parents

Activity 1 — Add ai

1. rain · 2. train · 3. mail · 4. paint · 5. snail · 6. chain

*In each word the **ai** team makes the long /ā/ sound. Notice that **ai** sits in the middle of every word — never at the end.*

Activity 2 — Circle the ai words

Should be circled: rain, trail, paint, wait

Not circled (short /a/): cat, hand, ran, sand

Activity 3 — Circle every ai word in each sentence

1. The **rain** fell on the **trail** all day.
2. I will **wait** for the **train** at the station.
3. A **snail** left **mail** in the **paint** can.

*Tip: there are two **ai** words in sentences 1 and 2, and three in sentence 3 — make sure your child catches them all.*

Activity 4 — Write the ai word for each picture

1. rain · 2. train · 3. mail · 4. snail

Teaching tip

The **ai** vowel team almost always appears in the middle of a word. For the long /ā/ sound at the end of a word, English uses **ay** instead (day, play, stay). Try this word chain to extend the lesson: **rain** → **train** → **trail** → **snail** → **sail** → **mail**.