



# ACTIVITY GUIDE

**Episode 210:** Closed and Open Syllables

**Book:** *Coyote's Soundbite: A Poem for our Planet* by John Agard

Scan below to watch lesson



## Read It

A few years ago, lead was found in Flint's drinking water. Many kids got sick because they had been drinking the water for a long time. Some kids had skin issues and even changes to their brains, making it hard for them to learn. Furthermore, it's happening in Benton Harbor and many cities in Michigan right now!

Michigan needs to check its water to make sure kids are not being hurt from their drinking water. One child in one family is too many!

## Foundational Skills

An **open syllable** is a special kind of syllable. Open syllables have one WRITTEN vowel that is NOT followed by one or more consonants. Open syllables USUALLY have vowels that make their long vowel sound.

### Rules for Dividing Syllables

Every syllable has one vowel or vowel team.

- Place a dot under each vowel
- Underline any vowel teams,
- Divide between two consonants

## Try It

Go through and underline each sentence in the text above according to the color code below:

**Green** = topic sentence

**Yellow** = important information  
(story telling parts)

**Blue** = details (thoughts; feelings; description sentences)

## Think About It

Look at this word. Each syllable is written in a different color. Which syllable in this word is not "closed in" by a consonant or consonants at the end?

**newspaper**

The second syllable ends with the vowel Aa. It is an open syllable.