



start

finish

cross
the
bridge

go over
the
bridge

cross
the
bridge

The Dropping Rule Game

In a base word that ends in e, when adding a vowel suffix, you drop the e and attach the suffix. A single final consonant before the vowel suffix indicates the vowel before the final consonant is long.

Examples:

- *hope + ful = hopeful* because hope does end in a silent e but -ful is a consonant suffix so the e is NOT dropped.
- *care + ing = caring* because care ends in a silent e but -ing is a vowel suffix so the silent e is dropped and the suffix is added.

Materials:

- derivative spelling rule sheet
- game board
- one die
- game pieces (ex: coins, buttons, mini squish balls)
- base word and suffix cards
- place for kids to record their answers

Review before the game:

To begin, set up the game board with a playing piece for each child. Base word card deck and suffix card deck go face-down near board where all players can reach. Each child needs somewhere to write their assigned derivative (ex: salt trays, chalkboards, dry erase markers, etc.) Each player rolls the die, and the player that rolls the lowest number goes first. Before beginning play, review the dropping rule.

* preparation: cut out cards and place on flashcards

Gameplay:

- The first player takes a base word card and a suffix card from the deck. The first player reads the base word and suffices out loud and verbally answers two questions to determine whether or not to drop the silent e.
 1. Does the 1 syllable base word end with an e? If yes, move on.
 2. Is a vowel suffix being added? If yes, drop the e and add the vowel suffix. If not, it is a consonant suffix- just add the consonant suffix.
- The player writes the derivative and discards cards face down in correct piles. Suffixes will be reused throughout the game.
- If correct, the player rolls the die and moves up the game board the assigned number of spaces. If not, assist the player to find the correct response and discuss reasoning.
- Play continues to the next player in clockwise motion.
- The first player to reach the finish circle wins the game.

Base word cards:

file	wave	shave	hide
rope	love	vote	wage
spice	slime	shake	code
grade	pride	tape	shade
slide	dine	brave	make

Suffix cards:

able can be done	est most	less without	ful full of
er more	er one who		