

ai • ay**/ā/** as in rain and play.*ay ends a word — ai sits in the middle.***1** Circle the words with ai or ay. 

rain

cat

play

tail

map

day

wait

stay

ran

train

way

paint

tray

and

snail

say

**FOR THE GROWN-UP**

ai and ay both say /ā/ — the sound in rain and play. The trick is position: ay ends a word, ai sits in the middle. If your child spells “plai”, that’s the rule to point to.

2 Sort the words into the right column.

Tip: ay ends a word; ai sits in the middle.

WORD BANK**rain****day****sail****play****wait****tray****chain****stay****mail****way****paint****clay****ai (middle)**

ay (end)

3 Write the missing team: ai or ay?

Tip: ay ends a word; ai sits in the middle.

LIKE THIS

r ai n

pl _____

t _____ l

d _____

tr _____ n

st _____

p _____ nt

w _____

Say each word out loud first — then decide which team spells it.

4 Read the story.

It can rain all day. We wait and wait. Then
the sun is out! We run and play. What a
day!

Read it three times — colour a star each time.



5 Roll and read.

You'll need one die.

rain	wait	paint	mail	sail	main
play	stay	tray	clay	pray	bay
tail	train	snail	chain	nail	aim
day	way	say	gray	hay	jay

How to play: roll the die, read one word from that column, then cross it out or colour it. **Two players?** Take turns — first to clear a column wins!

Kiddz.club

Free phonics printables, tools & articles for parents

Enjoyed this pack?

There is plenty more where this came from — free phonics worksheets, interactive tools, and step-by-step guides for teaching reading at home:

[**kiddz.club/phonics-worksheets**](https://kiddz.club/phonics-worksheets)

Want more than worksheets?

Picture This! teaches children to visualize what they read — the skill that turns decoding into real comprehension.

Start your 7-day free trial at kiddz.club