Two: The Importance of Time Keeping
Long and Short Vowels

Our individual and social lives depend on our ability to perceive and monitor time. Time keeping is particularly important in language and music. As every young child learning to read discovers, our vowels are pronounced as long or short. We have similar words like *hop* and *hope*.

Say these two words to yourself or out loud. Can you tell the difference between them? The vowel takes less time to say in *hop* than in *hope*. Can you hear this time difference?