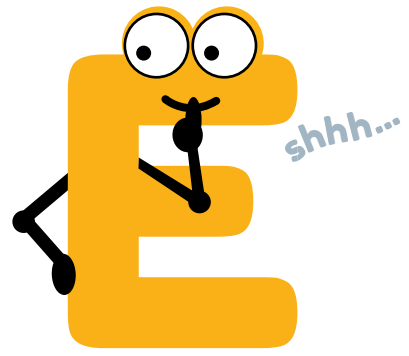# The Many Jobs of Silent E

*shhh...*

Converting the preceding vowel to a long sound is only *one* of the important duties that **Silent E** performs. The versatile and muti-tasking **Silent E** actually has seven different jobs.

**1** **Job #1: Silent E** makes the vowel sound before it long, as in *plate* and *wrote*.

**2** **Job #2: Silent E** can make **c** and **g** soft, as in *dance* and *large*.

**3** **Job #3: Silent E** keeps **i**, **u**, and **v** from being the last letter in a word, as in *pie*, *true*, and *give*.

**4** **Job #4: Silent E** can show that the word is not plural, as in *dense*, *tease*, and *lapse* (which would otherwise look like *dens*, *teas*, and *laps*.)

**5** **Job #5: Silent E** adds a vowel to syllables with the consonant+l+e syllable pattern, as in *bundle* and *puzzle*.

**6** **Job #6: Silent E** makes TH say its second sound, /th̶/, as in *teethe* and *bathe*.

**7** **Job #7: Silent E** clarifies the meaning of the word, as in the word pairs *by* ➡ *bye* and *aw* ➡ *awe*.

**Silent E** can also be added to Rule Breakers, such as *come*, *are*, *where*, *shoe*, *were*, and *one*. In these words, the reason for **Silent E** isn't obvious.