

A – The Apple in the Apple Tree

“The vowels are our Superstars, because if you didn’t have vowels, you couldn’t make any words. The vowels know this, so they make their sounds louder and longer than everyone! This is our first Superstar vowel. (Show the picture.) What kind of fruit tree does this look like? Yes, an apple tree. This tree has lots of apples, but can you find the biggest apple - right there, in the middle? Let’s pretend to hold a big apple in one hand. (Pretend to do this.) If you were going to eat an apple, would you take tiny bites like this (Make tiny nibbling sounds.) or a **huge** bite? (Agree to huge.) Let’s open our mouths wide to take a huge bite while we **start** to say, ‘Apple.’ Ready? ‘Aaaaa-’ STOP! That’s it! That’s the sound the apple makes! The mouth on the apple is open wide, too. ‘Aaaaa.’”

Hand cue: Pretend to be holding an apple, getting ready to bite it with a wide open mouth.