**Floss Rule:**

**Part of the closed syllable family**

**Rule:**

If a one syllable word ends in f, l, s, z and there is a short vowel before the final consonant (f, s, l or z), then you double the final consonant.

* This is a reading rule in that you only pronounce the one consonant of the doubled consonants at the end of the word.
* When reading and you see a double f, l, s or z then you must pronounce the vowel as a short vowel
* If the s says /z/ then you don’t double the final “s” (has, is, was)
* Three of the letters are in the word floss (f, l, s) but if you say “Zee Floss Rules” with an exaggerated French accent, then all 4 consonants are represented

**Video:**

https://blog.allaboutlearningpress.com/floss-rule/

**Word Bank**

**Double “f”**

sniff, cuff, off, buff, sniff, cliff, whiff, staff, stiff, bluff, stuff, stiff, cuff, puff, huff

**Double “s”**

grass, boss, chess, mass, pass, less, mess, miss, kiss, hiss, toss, moss, loss, fuss, brass, class, glass, press, dress, stress, less, bless, bliss, gloss, floss, class, pass, press, guess

**Double “l”**

shell, drill, fall, fell, bell, cell, tell, well, yell, hill, fill, bill, mill, will, pull, grill, chill, trill, spell, swell, smell, spill, still, all, ball, call, hall tall, wall, small, stall, doll, skull, sell, skill, shall, pill, kill

**Double “z”**

fizz, buzz, fuzz, fizz, jazz, frizz

**Two or more syllable words (note these are most often single syllable words with a prefix or compound words)**

Distress, redress, dismiss, remiss, express, regress, fulfill, basketball, befell, surpass, overstuff, foretell

**Exceptions:** pal, as, was, us, if, is, thus, his, yes, this, has, of, gas (gasoline), bus (autobus), whiz (wizard), gel (gelatin)

**Activity:**

1. Have students divide their page and write Floss Rule words on one side and exceptions on the other. See example below.
2. Read a list of words and have students write the word in the correct column. Use the word lists above as a reference. Include words that may sound like floss words but are not (feel, boil, normal, actual, aches, adds, beef, deaf, loaf, topaz, waltz)
3. Review the words together and discuss why words belong in each column.





