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| **Unusual Consonant Digraphs**  The national Curriculum calls these‘silent’ letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word). It is much more helpful to children to explain that the consonant sounds are spelled with a particular combination of letters: the n sound is spelled gn, pn, ne, kn; the r sound is spelled wr; the n sound is spelled mn, the s sound is spelled st; the m sound is spelled mb; etc.  **Cut this top row off before you give the sort to pupils!**  Some letters which are no longer sounded used to be sounded hundreds of years ago: e.g. in *knight*, there was a /k/ sound before the /n/, and the gh used to represent the sound that ‘ch’ now represents in the Scottish word *loch.* | | |
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| doubt | foreign | government |
| island | lamb | solemn |
| thistle | knight | knuckle |
| honest | wrapper | wrestle |
| know | when | crumb |
| answer | wrist | kneel |
| no | Neil | chair |