Instructions

You will need: One set of dominoes cards for each group of 4 students.

This works best when students are in teams – two against two, as there is more speaking, and the purpose of this is to get students trying to pronounce the sounds correctly.

Procedure

- Shuffle the domino cards and deal out six to each team, then deal one face up.
- Students take it in turns to match one of their cards to the ones on the table.
- If they can't see a pair, they pick up another card and miss that turn.
- The winners are the first group to use up all their cards.

Alternative procedure

- Deal out all the cards to the two teams.
- The first group to find a card where both sounds are the same starts (e.g. near and year) by putting their card down.
- Students then take it in turns to match one of their cards to the words on the table. If they make a mistake, they must take the card back and lose that turn.

If you are worried about the students' accuracy, you could give each group a referee with an answer sheet to check which words have the same pronunciation of 'ea'.

Feedback: while monitoring you could note mistakes to check. If you don't see any mistakes, then at the end just elicit 3-5 word pairs for each of the sounds.

Answers

/iː/	/e/	/ɪə/	/ɜː/	/eə/	/eɪ/
dream	dead	dear	heard	bear	steak
weak	meant	fear	learn	wear	great
peach	bread	beard	earn	pear	break
heat	heaven	hear	earth	swear	
peace	weather	near	pearl	(tear)	
teach	healthy	idea	early		
east	heavy	year			
breathe	breath	clear			
(read)	jealous	appear			
	breakfast	(tear)			
	sweat				
	weapon				
	deaf				
	threaten				
	treasure				
	(read)				

dr**ea**m	br**ea**th	d**ea**d	p**ea**ch
p**ear**	h**ea**lthy	h**ea**t	br**ea**kfast
n**ear**	y**ear**	t**ear**	w**ea**pon
j**ea**lous	h**ea**d	d**ea**f	thr**ea**ten
east	id**ea**	cl**ear**	m**ea**nt
w**ea**ther	h**ear**d	p**ea**ce	br**ea**d

tr**ea**sure	b**ea**rd	r**ea**d	**ear**n
d**ear**	w**ea**k	w**ear**	h**ea**vy
sw**ear**	br**ea**the	**ear**th	st**ea**k
l**ear**n	gr**ea**t	**ear**ly	t**ea**ch
sw**ea**t	b**ear**	h**ear**	app**ear**
br**ea**k	p**ear**l	h**ea**ven	f**ear**