

Phonics Strategy

Strategy: Letter Sound Blending-Word Recognition. The students will learn letter/sound blending to form meaningful words.

Appropriate Grade Level: K-5

Materials Needed:

- Word list of familiar words with 2-5 letters

Procedures/Steps: To develop successful readers, students with reading-relating difficulties must have intensive instruction in word recognition. Letter sound blending can be used as a strategy to do this.

1. Select words that:
 - Use already taught letter-sounds or letter combinations.
 - Move from short vowel-consonant and consonant-vowel-consonant (2-3 letters) to longer words (4-5 letters).
 - Initially contain continuous sounds from the original position.
2. Blend individual sounds without stopping
3. Follow the blending of a word with a quick pronunciation.
4. Progress from orally sounding out words to silently sounding them out.

Comments/Tips:

- Letter sound blending teaches students to blend together individual sounds to form meaningful words.
- Teaching letter sound blending should be taught in an explicit and systematic way.
- To become proficient, it is necessary to have initial practicing in blending.

Source:

Wanzek, J., & Haager, D. (2003). *Teaching word recognition with blending and analogizing, two strategies are better than one*. Council for Exceptional Children, 36(1), 32-38.