

Modeling Phonemic Awareness and Letter-Sound Knowledge

Blending involves putting phonemes together. Students combine their phonemic awareness and letter-sound knowledge as they blend each phoneme to read a word.

- *Model: Write the word **step** on the dry-erase board and point to each letter as you say each sound, /s/ /t/ /e/ /p/. Blend the sounds together to say the word: **step**.*
- Say, "Now it's your turn." (Model as students practice.)
- Say, "Write the word **splat** on your board. Point to each letter as you say its sound: /s/ /p/ /l/ /a/ /t/. Now, blend each sound together as you say the word: **splat**."

Segmenting is breaking words into phonemes. When they spell, students use both phonemic awareness and letter-sound knowledge to segment words into phonemes.

- *Model: Say the word **crush**. Say each sound, /c/ /r/ /u/ /sh/, and write the letter or letters that represent each sound. Blend each sound and say the word: **crush**.*
- Say, "Now it's your turn." (Model as students practice.)
- Say, "The word you will spell is **trip**. Say each sound, /t/ /r/ /i/ /p/, then write the letter that represents each sound. Now, blend each sound and say the word: **trip**."

Manipulating phonemes involves the addition, deletion, and substitution of phonemes in words.

- *Model: Write the word **spin** on the dry-erase board. Ask, "If we take off the /s/ sound, what word do we have?" Erase the **s**. Sound out each phoneme and point to each letter: /p/ /i/ /n/. Say the word: **pin**.*
- Say, "Now it's your turn." (Model as students practice.)
- Tell students to write the word **block**. Ask, "If we take off the /b/ sound, what word do we have?" Erase the **b**.
- Say, "**Lock**. Sound out each phoneme and point to the letter or letters that represent each sound: /l/ /o/ /k/." Tell students, "The **ck** blend makes one sound: /k/."
- Then say, "Don't erase the word **lock**. Let's make a new word by adding **-er** to the end of **lock**." Add **-er**.
- Ask them, "Now what word do we have? **Locker**. How do we spell **locker**? **L-o-c-k-e-r**. Good job!"