

Blending by Hand

Purpose: Students will distinguish and blend beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words.

Materials: none

Activity:

1. Tell students that they are going to use their hands to help them clearly pronounce each sound in a word. Have students knock on their desks as a way to distinguish beginning, middle, and ending sounds. Instruct students to first knock on the left, then middle, and then right side of the desks as they slowly say each sound in a word. Tell students that this stresses beginning, middle, and ending sounds of a word. Have students sweep back over their desks with their hands as they blend all the sounds together saying the word.
2. Show students another way to stress beginning, middle, and ending sounds by extending a finger each time they say a different sound in a word. When finished stressing each sound, have students use a sweeping hand motion while they blend all the sounds together to say the word one more time. Show students how this helps to clearly pronounce the word.
3. Put students into small groups of four students each. Give students picture words. Have them practice pronouncing simple words using both hand blending techniques.



You can record an individual student's understanding of this activity by checking the appropriate column for level of mastery and noting the date on which the activity took place.

Student's Name	<u>Developed</u> ***	<u>Developing</u> **	<u>Minimal</u> *	Date

- *** Student identifies beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words and clearly pronounces blends and vowel sounds.
- ** Student identifies some sounds and pronounces most blends and vowel sounds.
- * Student identifies few sounds and cannot pronounce most blends or vowel sounds.