

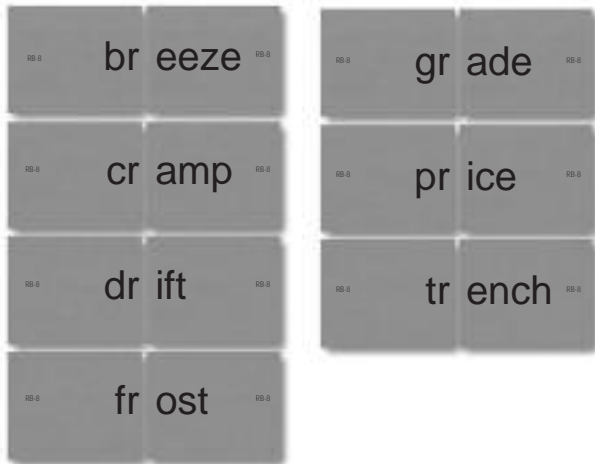
TIPS FOR TEACHERS



1725 East Mountain View Road
Phoenix, AZ 85020-2345
www.readskill.com

BLENDING (SLV BASES)

READING MANIPULATIVES PRODUCT: Intermediate Blending



Intermediate blending drills this critical skill in a more open-ended manner.

The 20 sets are grouped by digraphs, L-blends, R-blends, and S-blends. Each set has 4 to 7 beginning sounds and 32 to 34 bases that follow the short/long vowel patterns or contain variant vowel phonemes (underlined to signal their occurrence). The final set in each group contains 3-letter blends, which are especially challenging.

Students line up the blends or digraphs. Then they sound out a base, blend it to the initial sounds until they find a word, and place it there. Since a base may blend to more than one beginning sound, answer keys are not possible.

INTERMEDIATE BLENDING 270 \$40

TEACHING STRATEGIES: Blending bases containing short/long vowels

Phonetic blending is the ability to join phonemes in a smooth enough manner to approximate a pronunciation that enables identification of the word. Blending is a challenging skill, but if teachers model blending and separating sounds and provide plentiful practice, students develop proficiency. Manipulatives are ideal materials to use for teaching blending since graphemic bases, or rimes, can be decoded and then onsets blended to them to form words.

Step 1 – Teach short/long vowel patterns

Since the bases must be decoded before proceeding with these blending activities, students must first be taught short/long vowel phonemes and spelling patterns (Short/Long Vowel Patterns TIPS issue).

Step 2 – Teach rhyming and word family blending

Rhyming is the most straightforward way to introduce blending and help students to acquire basic blending skills. Listen to rhyming stories and sing rhyming songs. Then help children to identify the rhyming words. Next, let them predict words to complete rhymes.

Once children can identify and predict rhyme, introduce word families. It is easier to blend onsets to a rime with word families since rhyming facilitates blending. At first, use only single phonemes. Once students become more proficient, consonant blends can be added.

Step 3 – Blend rimes and onsets until a word is formed

First the student should decode the phonemic base, or rime, using short/long vowel patterns (or variant vowels once they have been introduced). Each base must be blended to multiple phonemes or blends until a word is formed. The rime is placed there, then the student moves on to the next one.

Bases may be able to be joined to multiple initial sounds. If a word is spelled differently (i.e., clame) or a rule breaker (i.e., love), point it out but accept the word since this a reading, not spelling, activity.

MAKING MATERIALS: Blending bases to initial sounds

1. Line off cover-weight sheets of paper (8.5 x 11 inches) into 8 horizontal strips (1.375 inches high).
2. Draw 4 vertical lines to divide the width of the page into 5 columns (1.7 inches wide).
3. Break sets according to initial sounds. If students do not need to work on consonant phonemes, use only blends and digraphs (see list below). Make multiple sets for each group. Three-letter blends are challenging, so use them in the final set of each group.
4. Sets must be coded in some way. This can be done by using varied ink/paper color or with symbol codes (as on example below).
5. The tedious step in making these blending manipulatives is selecting bases for the sets. Use the 3-page resource list that follows. A variety of short/long vowels should be included in each set. Decide how many sets of each consonant/blend/digraph group to make (2 to 4). Then draft the sets by working through the resource list, filling in endings for all sets.
6. Write or use a computer and printer to make the sets. Again, code with color or in some other way.
7. Laminate cards. Cut apart and place pieces in zipper bags or other storage devices.
8. Create a checklist to track the sets as they are completed.

SETS

Draw lines. Write 4–7 initial sounds in left column and 32 bases in remaining columns.

R-Blends ● #1	ab ●	ace ●	ack ●	ade ●
●	br ag ●	ain ●	ame ●	ank ●
●	cr ash ●	ay ●	eam ●	eat ●
●	dr ee ●	een ●	eeze ●	ess ●
●	fr ibe ●	ick ●	ill ●	im ●
●	gr int ●	ip ●	ize ●	og ●
●	pr oke ●	op ●	ost ●	ow ●
●	tr uck ●	ug ●	ush ●	ust ●

VARIANT VOWELS

Another Tips for Teachers issue contains teaching strategies and phonemic bases for high-utility variant vowel phonograms. Once students learn them, some bases containing variant vowels can be added to these sets.

INITIAL SOUNDS

Make 2 to 4 sets for single consonants, digraphs, and each blend groups.

Digraphs are two letters that form a single phoneme. Blends consist of two or more consonant phonemes blended together.

The following is a list of digraphs and blends. Group them in the sets as follows:

Digraphs: *ch, sh, th, wh*

L-Blends: *bl, cl, fl, gl, pl, sl, spl*

R-Blends: *br, cr, dr, fr, gr, pr, tr, shr, thr, spr, str*

S-Blends: *sc, sk, (sl), sm, sn, sp, squ, st, sw, scr, (spl), (spr), (str)*

Digraphs and blends are also found at the end of words or syllables.

The following are final digraphs and blends (many of which appear in the bases):

Final digraphs: *ch, sh, th, ng*

Final blends: *ld, lk, mp, nd, nk, nt, rd, rf, rk, rp, sk, sp, st*

RESOURCE LIST: Short/long vowel word families

SHORT A					LONG A			SHORT E	
	-ag	-and	-ang	mash		-ain	-ate		-end
	bag	band	bang	rash		brain	crate		bend
-ab	brag	bland	clang	sash	-ace	chain	date	-eck	blend
blab	crag	brand	gang	slash	brace	gain	fate	check	end
cab	drag	grand	hang	smash	face	main	gate	deck	fend
crab	flag	hand	pang	stash	grace	pain	grate	fleck	lend
dab	gag	land	rang	thrash	lace	plain	hate	heck	mend
drab	lag	sand	sang	trash	mace	rain	late	neck	send
gab	nag	stand	slang		pace	sprain	mate	peck	spend
grab	rag	strand	sprang	-ast	place	stain	plate	speck	tend
jab	sag		tang	blast	race	strain	rate	wreck	trend
lab	shag	-an		cast	space	train	skate	-ed	-ent
nab	snag	an	-ant	fast	trace	vain	state	bed	bent
scab	stag	ban	ant	last				bled	cent
slab	tag	bran	chant	mast	-ade	-ane	-ay	bred	dent
stab	wag	can	grant	past	blade	cane	bay	fed	gent
tab		clan	pant	vast	fade	crane	clay	fled	lent
	-act	fan	plant		glade	lane	day	led	rent
-ack	fact	man	rant	-ass	grade	mane	fray	red	scent
back	pact	pan	scant	bass	jade	pane	gay	shed	sent
black	tact	plan	slant	brass	made	plane	gray	shred	spent
clack	tract	ran		class	shade	sane	hay	sled	tent
crack		scan	-ap	glass	spade		jay	sped	vent
hack	-aft	span	cap	grass	trade	-ake	lay	wed	went
jack	craft	tan	chap	lass	wade	bake	may		
lack	draft	than	clap	mass		brake	pay	-ell	-est
pack	graft	van	flap	pass	-age	cake	play	bell	best
quack	raft		gap		age	fake	pray	cell	chest
rack	shaft	-ank	lap	-at	cage	flake	ray	dell	crest
sack		bank	map	bat	page	lake	say	fell	guest
shack	-am	blank	nap	brat	rage	make	slay	hell	jest
slack	clam	clank	rap	cat	sage	quake	spray	jell	nest
smack	dam	crank	sap	chat	stage	rake	stay	quell	pest
snack	dram	dank	scrap	fat	wage	sake	stray	sell	quest
stack	gram	drank	slap	flat		shake	sway	shell	rest
tack	ham	flank	snap	hat	-ail	snake	tray	smell	test
track	jam	frank	strap	mat	bail	stake	way	spell	vest
whack	ram	hank	tap	pat	fail	take	-ave	swell	west
	sham	lank	trap	rat	frail	wake	brave	tell	zest
-ad	slam	plank	wrap	sat	hail		cave	well	
bad	yam	prank		scat	jail	-ame	crave	yell	-ess
clad		rank	-ash	slat	mail	blame	gave		bless
dad	-amp	sank	bash	that	nail	came	grave	-en	chess
fad	camp	shank	brash	vat	pail	fame	pave	den	dress
glad	champ	spank	cash		quail	flame	rave	hen	guess
had	clamp	swank	clash	-atch	rail	frame	save	men	less
lad	cramp	thank	crash	batch	sail	game	shave	pen	mess
mad	damp	tank	dash	catch	snail	lame	slave	ten	press
pad	lamp	yank	flash	scratch	tail	name	wave	then	stress
sad	ramp		gash	hatch	trail	same		when	
tad	stamp		hash	match	wail	shame		wren	
	tramp		lash	patch		tame			

-et	-eal	-eed	SHORT I	-ig	fin	-ip	-ist	vice	shine
bet	deal	bleed		big	gin	blip	fist		shrine
fret	heal	deed	-ib	dig	grin	chip	gist	-ide	spine
get	meal	feed	bib	fig	in	clip	list	bide	swine
jet	peal	greed	crib	jig	kin	dip	mist	bride	vine
let	real	heed	fib	pig	pin	drip	twist	chide	whine
met	seal	need	nib	rig	shin	flip	wrist	glide	wine
net	squeal	reed	glib	sprig	sin	grip		hide	
pet	steal	seed	rib	swig	skin	hip	-it	pride	-ie
set	veal	speed	-ick	twig	spin	lip	bit	ride	die
wet	zeal	weed	brick	wig	thin	nip	fit	side	lie
yet			chick		tin	quip	flit	slide	pie
	-eap	-eel	click	-ill	twin	rip	grit	snide	tie
	cheap	feel	flick	bill	win	ship	hit	stride	-ife
	heap	heel	kick	chill		sip	it	tide	knife
LONG E	leap	keel	lick	dill	-ing	slip	kit	wide	life
	reap	kneel	pick	drill	bring	snip	knit		strife
-eat		peel	quick	fill	cling	strip	lit	-ile	wife
beat	-ean	reel	sick	frill	ding	tip	pit	file	
bleat	bean	steel	slick	gill	fling	trip	quit	bile	-ipe
cheat	clean	wheel	stick	grill	king	whip	sit	mile	gripe
cleat	dean		thick	hill	ping	zip	skit	pile	pipe
feat	glean	-een	tick	ill	ring		slit	smile	ripe
heat	lean	green	trick	kill	sing	-int	spit	tile	snipe
meat	mean	queen	wick	mill	sling	flint	split	vile	stripe
neat	wean	screen		pill	spring	glint	twit	while	swipe
peat	-eam	seen	-id	quill	sting	hint	wit	-ike	wipe
pleat	beam	sheen	bid	sill	string	lint		bike	-ire
seat	cream	teen	did	skill	swing	mint	itch	dike	fire
treat	dream	-eep	grid	spill	thing	print	bitch	hike	hire
wheat	gleam	cheep	hid	still	wing	splint	ditch	like	spire
	ream	creep	kid	thrill	wring	sprint	itch	pike	tire
-eak	scream	deep	lid	till	zing	squint	hitch	spike	wire
beak	seam	jeep	rid	twill		stint	pitch	strike	
bleak	steam	keep	skid	will		tint	snitch		-ite
creak	stream	peep	slid		-ink		stitch		bite
leak	team	seep	squid	-im	blink	-ish	switch	-ime	kite
peak		sheep		brim	brink	dish	twitch	chime	crime
sneak	-ee	sleep	-iff	dim	chink	fish	witch	crime	dime
speak	bee	steep	cliff	grim	clink	swish		dime	grime
squeak	fee	sweep	skiff	him	drink	squish	LONG I	grime	lime
streak	flee	weep	sniff	prim	kink	wish		lime	prime
teak	free		stiff	rim	link		-ice	prime	slime
weak	glee	-eet	whiff	skim	mink	-isk	dice	slime	time
	knee	beet		slim	pink	brisk	lice	time	write
-eek	see	feet	-ift	swim	rink	disk	mice		-ive
cheek	spree	fleet	drift	trim	shrink	frisk	nice	-ine	chive
creek	tee	greet	gift	vim	sink	risk	price	brine	dive
leek	thee	meet	lift		stink	whisk	rice	dine	drive
mEEK	three	sheet	rift	-in	think		slice	fine	five
peek	tree	sleet	shift	in	wink	-iss	splice	line	hive
seek	wee	street	sift	bin		bliss	spice	mine	strive
sleek		sweet	swift	chin		hiss	thrice	nine	thrive
week		tweet	thrift	din		kiss	twice	pine	
						miss			

SHORT O					SHORT U				LONG U
	-og	pot	-oast	-ome		-ug	-unk	-unt	
	bog	rot	boast	chrome		bug	bunk	blunt	
-ob	clog	shot	coast	dome	-ud	chug	chunk	bunt	-ude
bob	cog	slot	roast	home	bud	drug	drunk	grunt	crude
blob	dog	spot	toast		dud	dug	dunk	hunt	dude
cob	flog	tot		-ope	mud	hug	flunk	punt	nude
gob	fog	trot	-obe	cope	spud	jug	funk	runt	prude
job	frog		globe	dope	stud	lug	hunk	stunt	rude
knob	hog	-oth	lobe	grope	thud	mug	junk		-ue
lob	hog	broth	probe	hope		plug	plunk	-ush	blue
mob	jog	cloth	robe	mope	-ub	rug	punk	blush	clue
rob	log	froth		nope	club	shrug	shrunken	brush	due
slob	slog	moth	-ode	pope	cub	slug	skunk	crush	flue
snob	smog		code	rope	dub	smug	slunk	flush	glue
sob		LONG O	lode	scope	flub	snug	spunk	gush	true
	-ong		mode	slope	grub	tug	stunk	hush	
	bong	-oach	node		hub		sunk	lush	-uit
-ock	dong	coach	rode	-ose	nub		trunk	mush	fruit
block	gong	poach	strode	chose	pub	-un		plush	suit
clock	long	roach		close	rub	fun	-ump	rush	
crock	prong		-oke	hose	scrub	gun	bump	slush	-use
dock	song	-oad	broke	nose	shrub	nun	chump	thrush	fuse
flock	strong	load	choke	pose	snub	pun	clump		muse
frock	thong	road	coke	prose	stub	run	dump	-ust	use
hock	throng	toad	joke	rose	tub	shun	grump	bust	
knock	tong		poke	those		spun	hump	crust	-ute
lock	wrong	-oak	smoke		-uck	stun	jump	dust	brute
mock		cloak	spoke	-ote	buck	sun	lump	just	chute
rock	-op	croak	stoke	note	cluck		plump	must	cute
shock	chop	soak	stroke	quote	duck	-um	pump	rust	flute
smock	cop		woke	rote	huck	bum	rump	thrust	jute
sock	crop	-oal		vote	luck	chum	slump	trust	mute
stock	drop	coal	-ole	wrote	muck	drum	stump		
	flop	foal	dole		pluck	glum	trump	-ut	but
-oss	hop	goal	hole	-ow	puck	gum		cut	
boss	mop	shoal	mole	bow	shuck	hum	-ung	glut	
cross	plop		pole	blow	struck	plum	clung	gut	
gloss	pop	-oam	role	glow	suck	rum	flung	hut	
loss	prop	foam	stole	grow	truck	scum	hung	jut	
moss	shop	loam	whole	know	tuck	slum	lung	nut	
toss	slop	roam		low		sum	rung	rut	
	stop	-oan	-one	row	-uff	swum	slung	shut	
-od	top	loan	bone	show	bluff		sprung	smut	
clod		groan	clone	slow	buff	-unch	strung	strut	
cod	-ot	moan	cone	snow	cuff	bunch	stung		
god	blot		crone	stow	fluff	brunch	sung		
mod	clot	-oat	drone	tow	gruff	crunch	swung		
nod	cot	bloat	hone		muff	hunch	wrung		
plod	got	boat	lone	-own	puff	lunch			
pod	hot	coat	phone	blown	scuff	munch			
prod	jot	float	prone	flown	snuff	punch			
rod	knot	goat	stone	grown	stuff	scrunch			
shod	lot	moat	tone	known					
sod	not	oat	zone	own					
trod	plot	throat		shown					