

# WORKING WITH WORDS

Activities and Resources from Flagler Parent Academy Series  
by *The James Patterson Literacy Challenge*

## SOUNDS IN WORDS



- Students need to be aware that words can be broken down into parts, such as, syllables, and individual sounds.
- Being able to manipulate sounds lays the foundation for skilled reading.

## COUNTING WORDS

1. Say a sentence (adult or child)
2. Repeat the sentence together
3. Count the words in the sentence

*Example: I see a dog. (4 words)*



## JUNK BOX ROCK

1. Make a junk box
  2. Pick an item from the junk box
  3. Name the item
  4. Count the syllables in the name
- Example: hanger*  
*(2 syllables hang-er)*



## FIRST SOUND FIRST

1. Choose a word
2. Ask your child: "What is the first sound you hear in this word?"

*Examples:*

*The first sound in bird is /b/*

*The first sound in chip is /ch/*

*The first sound in window is /w/*

## RHYME DETECTIVE

1. Give your child two words
2. Ask your child: "Do these words rhyme?"
3. Bonus: Have your child think of a new rhyming word

*Examples:*

*Do sat and mat rhyme? (yes)*

*Do sat and sun rhyme? (no)*



## LETTER NAMES AND SOUNDS



- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Letter-name knowledge    | -> What letter is this?                      |
| Letter-shape recognition | -> Point to the letter "a".                  |
| Letter-sound knowledge   | -> What sound does this letter make?         |
| Ability to print letters | -> Write the letter "a".                     |
| Rapid letter naming      | -> Name these letters as quickly as you can. |

# ALPHABET HUNT



1. Write letters on sticky notes
2. Hide the sticky notes around the house
3. Have your child hunt for the letters
4. When they find a letter, have them say the name and sound
5. *Bonus: Help children put the sticky notes in ABC order*

# ALPHABET MYSTERY BAG

1. Write letters on pieces of paper and place them in a bag
2. Let your child reach into the bag and take out a letter
3. Have them say the name of the letter and sound the letter makes



# FLASHCARDS



- Write letters on cards
- Hold up the cards one at a time and have your children say the name and sound of each letter

*Example: The letter Dd says /d/ like in the word “dog.”*



# I SPY A SOUND GAME



- I SPY game can be played in any location (house, car, restaurants, etc.)!

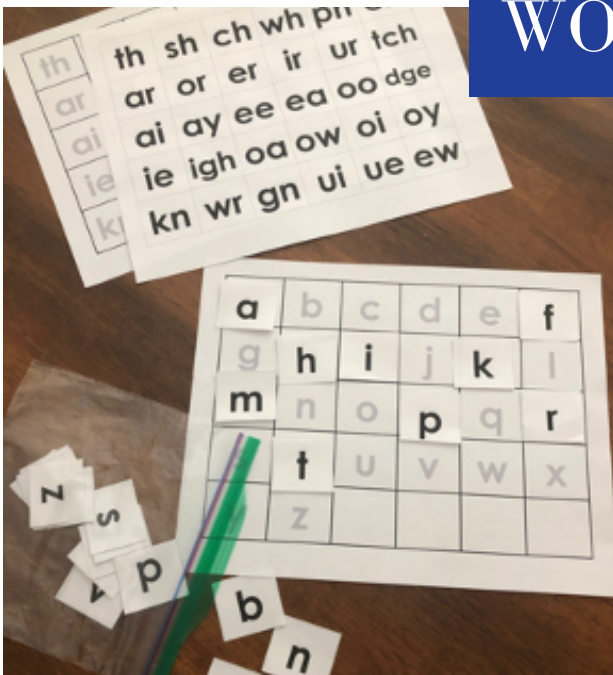
*Example: I SPY something that starts with the /s/ sound... What is it?*

## BUILDING WORDS

- Using magnetic letters or letter tiles can help make abstract concepts about the alphabet more concrete. It also helps reinforce letter sound knowledge
- You can get words to build from anywhere. The books your child reads are great resources.
- Make sure the words you chose are “decodable” meaning the letters in the word easily correlate to sounds.



## WORD WORK RESOURCES



- Letter tiles are a great resource to support your child building words. You can download some from our hub. **[CLICK HERE](#)** to download.
- We also have instructional word work videos. Find those videos **[HERE](#)**. Scroll down to find [Reading with Ricke](#), [Reading with Ms. Colleen](#), and [Rasheeda the Reader](#) YouTube Channel Links.