



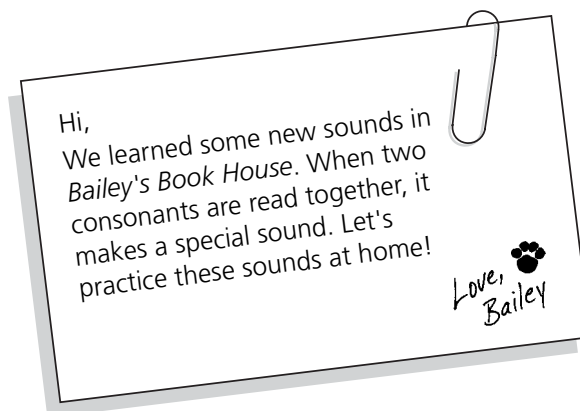
Silly Songs

Together Time

Sound Detective

When reading your child's favorite story to him or her, use a different approach once in a while. Read slowly and ask your child to listen for words that begin with blended consonants (such as snow, swing, brown, and throw). Have your child point to each word as it is read and raise a hand when they hear a word beginning with a blend. If they have difficulty, exaggerate the blend sound at the beginning of the word and point to it in the text.

Magazines are a great place to find words with blended sounds. When your child is comfortable with words with blended sounds, give him or her the opportunity to locate those words for him or herself.



Sound Search

Matching words to objects is one of the best activities you can do with your child. In this activity, you can extend word matching to sound matching. Obtain a set of multicolored self-stick notes. Select a room in your house and help your child match words to objects by writing the word on a note and attaching it to the object. For this first step, make sure that all the notes are the same color.

Next, as you and your child learn to identify words with blended sounds, replace the original note with one of a different color. The multiple colors of the notes allow you to focus on words with blended sounds. When you are finished, your child can immediately see which objects match words with blended sounds.

You will be able to find words with blended sounds throughout the house. These words include bread, grains, fruit, drain, glass, scoop, sponge, cradle, blanket, clothes, scales, stamps, sweater, clock, print, plant, frame, and many more.

When you finish finding words with blended sounds, you can become more sophisticated by matching same sounds with different colors, or extend the game to rhyming words, and more.

As your child becomes more familiar with and aware of blended sounds, he or she will notice them in general reading or conversation and discover that actions such as "splash" and descriptive words such as "fresh" also contain blended sounds.