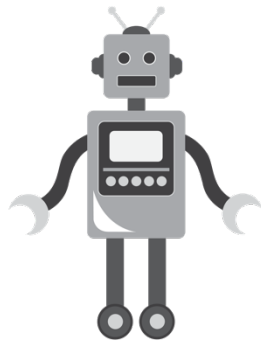


CAN YOU SPEAK ROBOT?

A FUN GAME TO TARGET THE PHONEMIC AWARENESS SKILLS OF SEGMENTING AND BLENDING

THINK ABOUT . . .

Phonemic Awareness skills are important when building a foundation for literacy. Segmenting is the ability to break a word into sounds, for example, knowing “cat” becomes c-a-t. Conversely, blending is the ability to put segmented words together, for example, a child can hear the sounds c-a-t, and identify the word as “cat.”



ACTIVITY

1. Print out pictures of common one-syllable and two-syllable words (cat, cowboy, dog, cow, man, boy, doctor, princess, water, etc.).
2. Attach the picture of the robot to a paper bag, box, or container. Cut out the robot’s mouth, so that the pictures can be fed to the robot.
3. Explain to the child that the robot is hungry, and he wants to eat some words. The robot will speak in his special robot language, which includes segmented words. The child must first identify the word that the robot said, and then can feed the picture of the word to the robot.
4. For the first round, set out two pictures and label each picture. Turn to the robot and ask, “Mr. Robot, what would you like to eat?” In a robot voice, answer by saying the segmented word of one of the pictures, like c-a-t. When the child identifies “cat,” from the two pictures, the child can feed the picture of the cat to the robot.
5. Continue showing and labeling the pictures until you are confident that the child is demonstrating the skill with accuracy. Increase the complexity by adding more pictures to the set (e.g. a set of 5 pictures) or beginning to fade the pictures. To practice segmenting skills, have your child speak for the robot.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Picture cards (provided on the second page of this document)
- Robot picture printed

EXTRA ACTIVITY:

The song below follows the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know it.” This song continues to target segmenting and blending skills.

*If you think you know the word, shout it out
If you think you know the word, shout it out
If you think you know the word because you
know what you heard
If you think you know the word, shout it out*

Your child can then shout out the target segmented word. If they are struggling, segment their name, or any familiar names (friends, classmates, pets, family).

HELPFUL TIPS:

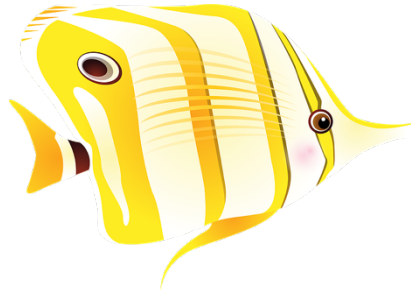
- Don’t be afraid to use silly voices and other methods to make the game interesting! Your child doesn’t need to know that it is an educational game!
- Teach the concept for as long as necessary. Make sure the child is reliable in their answers before increasing complexity.

Special thanks to graduate students in the Listening and Spoken Language Deaf Education graduate training program at Utah State University. These pages can be reproduced for educational purposes.





sun



fish



ball



shoe



car



bed



house



hat



chicken



spider



water



monster



cowboy



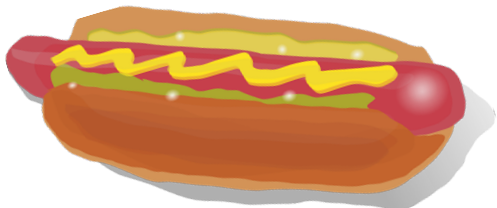
cookie



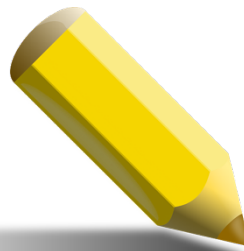
flower



airplane



Hot dog



yellow

