

To the teacher:-

We are going to start consonant blends, this week.
They will be treated in this order:

Explanation

* When your mouth moves from one position to another, you have made a new sound.
Therefore, 2 or more consonants, eg. [pl] make 2 sounds and should be treated this way, whilst learning sound processing skills.

This contrasts with one sound with two letters, eg. [th] where there is only one movement of the mouth.

Brief summary of the main consonant sounds

- c (or k) feel this in your throat; it blows lots of air; it is quiet.
- g feel this in your throat; it does not blow lots of air; it is noisy.
- p feel the sound pop from your lips; it blows lots of air; it is quiet.
- b feel the sound pop from your lips; it does not blow much air; it is noisy.
- f bite your bottom lip; blow lots of air on your lips; it is quiet.
- l feel the tip of your tongue touch the inside of your bottom teeth; it does not end sharply.
- n feel the tip of your tongue touch the inside of your bottom teeth; it comes out your nose.
- m feel your lips together; it comes out your nose.
(To feel the sound come out of your nose, squeeze your nose with your fingers and feel the difference.)
- t feel the tip of your tongue up behind your top teeth; it blows lots of air; it is quiet.
- d feel the tip of your tongue up behind your top teeth; it does not blow lots of air; it is noisy.
- r feel the tip of your tongue touch the inside of your top teeth; it does not end sharply.
- x = k + s said at almost the same time.

WEEK 18

* This week we have 2 consonants together on the end of the word.
Encourage the children to feel what their mouth is doing and to describe what they can feel for each sound while doing the Encoding and Decoding and Sound Processing Activities.

- eg. lump l = tip of tongue up behind the top teeth
- u = mouth open
- m = lips shut, sound from nose
- p = lips exposed, lots of sound from air

* Sounds that give most trouble are:

- (a) ___ m p Exaggerate the third sound and talk about how it feels.
 ___ l ___
- (b) The vowels in the following can be a problem.
 ___ a m p
 ___ e m p ef to um de nt W to help with this difficulty.
 ___ a n ___
 ___ e n ___
- (c) The letter 'x' needs to be discussed.
 Make sure that they understand that the letter 'x' makes the noise [cks].



***When 2 or more consonants are together, say each sound clearly.**