

Home Reading Program

Infant through Preschool



Intermediate Phonograms and Words Flashcards

Intermediate Phonograms with Words

** The Alphabet and Alphabet Phonograms (Beginning Phonograms) are presented to the baby before working with Intermediate Phonograms.*

Description of Flashcards

Flashcards are all double-sided. A phonogram is shown on one side of the flashcard. On the other side is a word that contains the phonogram. The phonogram is easily detected because it is colored magenta on both sides of the flashcard.

How to Assemble Flashcards

Print flashcards on index paper (card stock) or use card stock or poster board for backing if you print on standard weight paper. Match the word to the phonogram and slip the pages, back-to-back, into a loose-leaf page protector so that one side of the flashcard shows the phonogram and the other side shows the word.

Pointers

- Practice your presentation in front of a mirror until you are comfortable handling flashcards.
- Show flashcards when both you and the baby are feeling well and are in a good mood.
- Good lighting is essential.
- Eliminate noise and distractions before giving a presentation.
- Gain the child's consent to show flashcards. (Pick a time when he's not doing something he enjoys and doesn't mind being interrupted.)

Presenting Flashcards

- Tell the child that you have more phonograms and that each phoneme of each phonogram has its own word.
- You may show 5 or more (or less) flashcards, per session, depending upon the child's interest.
- Hold the flashcards with the words facing you. (The word is your pronunciation key to the pronunciation of the phoneme.)
- Hold the flashcards steady, at the child's level, where he can see clearly without straining. (For an infant this would be about 18".)
- Take each flashcard from behind and bring it up to the front while pronouncing the phoneme as you show the flashcard. Then turn the card around and say the word. (Or you may want to sit the child next to you on the couch and put the flashcards on your lap and hold up the top flashcard for the child to see.)
- Presentations should be done quickly and smoothly. Ten seconds for both sides of five flashcards is ideal.
- Leave some time between sessions and never show more flashcards than the child wants to see.

Focusing on Words Instead of Flashing

Besides flashing phonograms and words, work with fewer flashcards and go over each phoneme in the word.

- Identify the phonogram for the child, then turn it around and say the word.
- Now say the word again, more slowly, pronouncing the phonemes in a drawn-out, segmented manner while pointing to the letters as you say them.
- Then blend the sounds together again and say the word as you would speak it normally using clear pronunciation. (All in all, the word is spoken three times.)
- As you blend the phonemes, move your index finger under the word from left to right in the same direction as the eyes would move in reading the word.

Maintaining Interest

Keep in mind that the rule is to stop before the child loses interest, so the child will be eager to see the flashcards next time you show them. If it works better for you or the child to show fewer flashcards (or more) show the number that works best.

We hope you and your child enjoy this reading program. The gift of reading is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child. Early readers have all of the advantage in life, and it is never too soon (or too late) to begin to learn to read.

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