

Alphabetic Principle Activity: Spelling

Say It and Move It with Letter Tiles

Objective: To teach children to use knowledge of letter sound associations to build words.

Materials Needed: word list, 3-square strips, letter tiles

Instructions: Place a subset of letter tiles above your child's strip. Tell him or her that it's time to play Say It and Move It with letter tiles.

Model how to play Say It and Move It with Letter Tiles. For example, say:

"It is my turn to play Say It and Move It with Letter Tiles. I'll do a three-sound word with my 3-square strip." State a cvc word. "Listen, ran. What word? Watch. I will say each sound in ran and point to a square as I say each sound: /rrr/ /aaa/ /nnn/." (Touch a square as you say each sound.)

"Now I'll find the letters for the sounds in ran." (Touch the first square.) "/rrr/ is the first sound in ran. I'll find the letter for the /rrr/ in ran." (Place the letter tile for r in the first square.)

Go back and say (and point to) the first sound in ran and then say the middle sound and stop as you point to the middle square. *"/rrr/ /aaa/ /aaa/ is the next sound in ran. I'll find the letter for the /aaa/ in ran." (Place the letter tile for a in the middle square.)*

Go back and say the first, middle, and last sounds in ran as you touch each square. Stop as you point to the last square. *"/rrr/ /aaa/ /nnn/. /nnn/ is the last sound in ran. I'll find the letter for the /nnn/ in ran." (Place the letter tile for n in the last square.)*

Conclude by saying (and pointing to a square as you say each sound) *"/rrr/ /aaa/ /nnn/ are the sounds in ran and r – a – n spells ran!"*

Clear off letter tiles. Choose a new cvc word. Lead your child through the activity. As your child becomes more proficient, you may ask him/her to segment the word and find the letter tiles on his/her own.

(Adapted from Scott Foresman's Early Reading Intervention.)

