

Beginning CVC word-reading

Use CVC cards with word on one side and picture on the other (can use those included in BBC games' "CVC Wordspin" from LDA, or make your own) for the following activities:

Step 1

- 3 to 6 cards on table, picture-side up, adult segments the sounds (i.e. "c-u-p") of words for child to blend and identify picture.
Feedback: "Yes, c-u-p, cup."
- With cards word-side up, adult segments a word and child identifies the word, then turns the card over to link the word to the picture
Feedback: "Yes, that says c-u-p which is cup."

Step 2

- 4 to 6 cards on table, word-side up, all with different initial sound, adult asks "Which one is cup?" Child chooses word and turns over card to check picture to see if they are right.
- As above but include 2 words with the same initial sound but different ending, e.g. cup cat.
Feedback: whichever card is chosen, draw the child's attention to the initial sound and the final sound of both words.
- Continue, gradually increasing the number of words starting with the same sounds.

Step 3

- Put 5 cards on table, picture-side up, and use spinner or dice with vowels on; spin spinner or roll dice and child must identify which word has that vowel sound
(Note: some children find vowel sounds difficult, so don't wait until they are consistent with vowels before moving on to the next activities.
However, when child is becoming consistent with vowels, increase to 10, then 15 cards, 2/3 for each vowel)
- Have 4 to 6 cards on the table, picture-side up (can be the same 5 cards as vowels activity above), then turn them over, swap them around, and have child read the words (as he/she has already

seen the pictures, this will be an aid but they will still have to look at the word)

Step 4

- Place several cards word-side up and get the child to find the ones you ask for. Before they give it to you, have them check the other side to see if they are right
- Place several cards word-side up and have the child read as many as they can (they choose which ones they want to try), and they check the reverse to see if they are right (no need for any adult feedback, they get the feedback from the pictures)
- Allow the child to play with the cards, testing him/herself
- Try dictating some of the words the child is used to seeing
- Try any of the above activities reversing roles