

Sound Boxes

Michèle Dufresne, Ed.D.

Sound boxes can help students learn how to hear and record sounds in words. Each student needs a Sound Box card in a plastic write-on sleeve, a dry-erase marker, and an eraser.

Use the following steps:

Step 1: Dictate a word for students to write in the boxes. (Do not have students guess how many boxes they need! Tell them how many boxes to use.)

Step 2: Have each student say the word slowly and run their finger under the boxes.

Step 3: Have each student say the word slowly again and write the letter for each phoneme in one box.

Step 4: Have students run their finger under the boxes and check the sounds.

Once students have learned how to do this procedure, use it during guided writing to help students hear and record sounds in words.

Sample Word Study Lessons

GUIDED READING LEVEL	PURPOSE	EXAMPLE LESSONS
A	Initial consonants	<i>bat, rat, sat, pat</i> <i>hot, rot, pot, cot</i>
B	Initial and final consonants	<i>man, pat, sap, wag</i> <i>pit, sip, wig, tin</i>
C	Short vowels	<i>nag, pet, bin, mop, rug</i> <i>ban, peg, pit, cob, run</i>
D	Digraphs	<i>chin, shut, chug, ship</i> <i>rash, bath, push, moth</i>
E	Initial blends	<i>brat, blip, brag, blot</i> <i>fresh, broth, blush, cloth</i>
F	Final blends	<i>sink, lamp, desk, gasp</i> <i>trust, drift, scalp, stamp</i>

