

When are children ready to orally segment?

Children are ready for this stage when they demonstrate some of the following skills:

- a.) They can access fun listening games
- b.) They understand and join in with simple games with musical instruments
- c.) They have some simple awareness of alliteration, for example they can hear the sound 's' when you say 'sssithery ssslipperry sssnake!'
- d.) They have some simple awareness of rhythm, for example they can hear how many syllables their name has in it, when 'hitting it' with a drum or claves.
- e.) They can talk about the different sounds that different objects or parts of their bodies make.

Giving instructions

Give your child instructions in sound ~
talk, for example:

It's bed, t-igh-m **time!**

Say something wrong

For example:

'This is my s-o-ck' as you put on your coat.
Your child will soon correct you.

Have some small objects set out.

I'm choosing the... l-ea-f. When the children
say leaf, repeat the sounds and say the word

Feed the monkey

It doesn't necessarily need to be a monkey in
this activity; any other toy would work well
also.

Have some toy food and a picnic hamper
next to the toy monkey. Say to your child that
the monkey can only put the food in his
hamper if we can say it in sound-talk, e.g.
j-a-m. Jam! Good foods to use in this game
are things like ham, eggs, cake, milk and
cheese. If your child gets good at these
simpler words, however, why not have a go
at longer words, for
example 'sandwich'!



Use a puppet or toy

Pretend a puppet or toy is shy and can only
speak in sound-talk, for example:

Pop is very shy. He says he wants to go out
to play. He says he wants to j-u-m-p. What
does he want to do?

Or encourage your child to ask the puppet
questions in a similar manner.

Hide simple items in a sound box

In my box, I have a d-o-g.

When your child says dog, pull out the dog to
reward them. Repeat the sounds and say the
word together.

Play 'I Spy' using sound-talk

I spy with my little eye a... b-a-g. Invite your
child to say the sounds, say the word and
find the object. If they can, it is their turn to
spy something.

Play 'Please may I have...?'

Say to your child
-----, please may I have a blue p-e-n?
The child must then get up and find a blue
pen for you. You say:
Th-a-nk y-oo. Then select another item.