

Hearing and Recording Sounds

The ability to hear and record sounds in words allows children to grow in spelling and letter/ sound correspondence.

Being able to hear the sounds in words you want to write is critical, and leads to success in reading and writing.

Competent readers and writers can:

- hear sounds in sequence in words
- link single symbols and chunks with the sounds they represent
- recognize exceptions
- hear individual phonemes and record them as letters
- hear sounds buried within words

A teacher may need to help the child use familiar words to write new, unknown words.



In an effective balanced literacy program, teachers

- ✓ encourage and provide opportunities to write daily.
- ✓ model the writing process and a variety of writing strategies.
- ✓ use a variety of reasons to write: stories, reports, letters, lists, etc.
- ✓ keep a writing center stocked with materials.
- ✓ encourage children to use phonetic spelling.
- ✓ help children to develop strategies for editing spelling.
- ✓ take time to let students read their writing to someone.
- ✓ co-author a book with a student.
- ✓ have students keep journals.
- ✓ use Elkonin (sound) boxes.
- ✓ encourage stretching of words (like a rubber band) and clap syllables.
- ✓ provide a print-rich environment.
- ✓ make and break apart words using magnetic letters.

Teaching the ability to hear and record sounds in words is necessary to make the link between writing and reading. Intervention activities need to be provided regularly in a print- rich environment using a variety of reasons to write.