Building Blocks for Spelling and Phonemic Awareness

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A Hands-on Workshop

This workshop will walk you through ideas you can use with your students next week.

- Phonemic awareness drills and scripts
- Spelling introductory level and lists
- Spelling multi-syllable words and lists

Why

Hands on manipulatives help free up working memory.

It's fun and keeps students engaged.

Helps emphasize the predictable structure of the English language.

Vowel Sound

or

Consonant Sound?

Basic Block set:

4 red square vowels

6 random colored squares

Dry erase marker

Advanced Block set:

2 red 4x2 “long” and 2, 2x2 “short” red square vowels

Pairs of random colored squares, pink/brown VR

Other tools:

Colored craft sticks

Felt or paper squares,

Mega blocks: can twist to change letters.

Wooden cubes

Syllable - a word or part of a word with one vowel sound.

Practice

Feel chin, and count out one red block for each pushed sound.

Then, pull again, and mark long or short vowel sounds (if using advanced kit).

napkin

fabulous

nomad

costume

Match what the students are seeing.

Model along with students. Repeated sound=same color (use advanced set)

Move from top to bottom, replace blocks to the bottom.

Phonemic Awareness

Show me: CAT

Hold chin, choose 1 red.

Unblend: c-a-t,

Add a block for the sounds (k) and (t).

If this is “cat” all touch each color as you unblend it, c-a-t

show me chat, all say “chat” touch and change out the new sound. Placing the replaced bock on the bottom.

Continue making ONE change each time. Repeat 8-10 changes at first, then shorten to 5 changes once they have it secure.

Repeat as a warm up to spelling.

Practice

Pair up, using scripts, do 4 PA changes each.

Try advanced with duplicate consonants and Vr.

Link for scripts: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uDrTHkAJ9iYRvZrI4cQDC6wwaMo77wCvE-zi61Fm3v8/edit

Straight block spelling

Younger grades can spell multisyllable words with blocks only for practice hearing sounds. **Syllable box**.

Just count and identify syllables

Identify short or long sounds

Spell entire words with sounds only

Spelling 1 syllable words

Say word, feel chin. Pull red block for each push (syllable=1 vowel sound)

Repeat word, unblend, place sounds around the vowel.

Touch each block, repeat the sound, name and write the letter. Code and read the word. Erase, remove red, replace blocks to the bottom of the stack.

Practice

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xUJW6xcqDGYkTVoLzvRRb6Pqwlat6XHOpssbffve78g/edit?usp=sharing to access sample lists.

Pair up, using scripts, do 2 spelling words each.

Spelling 2+ syllable words

Say word, feel chin. Pull red block for each push (syllable=1 vowel sound)

Repeat word, touch and check each syllable.

Say “First syllable”, unblend and add sounds around vowel; “Second syllable” unblend, add sounds around vowel; NOW, go back and touch the block as you make the sound, name the letter, and write grapheme on the block (one block = 1 sound), code and read the word. Erase, remove reds, replace blocks.

Practice

Pair up, using scripts, spell two, 2 syllable words.

Spelling Derivatives (adding affixes)

Say word, feel chin. Pull red block for each push (syllable=1 vowel sound)

Identify the base word and the suffix. Unblend and block spell the baseword and the suffix, adding consonant sounds around the vowel.

Say "baseword- _____", name and write graphemes as each sound is made. Identify suffix: consonant suffix, just add. Vowel suffix, look at the last 3 letters of the BW and make a decision.

Decisions with Vowel suffixes:

Look at the last 3 letters of the base word.

If the last 3 letters of the base word: VV or CC, **JUST ADD.**

If the last 3 letters ends with VC, **DOUBLE** the C, then add.

If the last 3 letters ends with VCe, **DROP** the E and add the vowel suffix.

Practice

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xUJW6xcqDGYkTVoLzvRRb6Pqwlat6XHOpssbffve78g/edit?usp=sharing for lists.

Pair up, using scripts, spell base words with suffixes (derivatives). Make a decision.....