

# E2: Snail Speech

Lesson Objective: Children will hear a word spoken with a pause between each of its syllables and blend the separated syllables into a spoken word.

## Materials

- picture cards and word list

Print out the picture cards and cut them apart. Place them in a stack, face down.

## Activity

Video: How to play Snail Speech

Explain to your child that snails are very sssllllloooowwww animals, and talking snails talk just as slowly as they move! Because snails are so slow, they say their words one syllable at a time, and your child will have to put the syllables together into words to figure out what the snail is saying.

Pick a card from the stack, but don't show it to the child. In your best "snail" voice, say the multi-syllabic word, broken into slow, separate syllables (e.g., "Lol ... li ... pop."). Speak clearly and slowly in a monotone voice, being sure to pause for about one second between syllables. Your child will listen carefully, repeat the syllables, and then blend them into a word. Do not show him the card until after he has guessed the word.

Adult: I'm going to say a word like a snail.

Listen: El ... e ... phant.

Now you say it, like a snail.

Child: El ... e ... phant!

Adult: Now put the parts together. What's the word?

Child: Elephant!

Adult: Yes, elephant. [reveal the picture card to the child]

## E2: Snail Speech (continued)

### Small Groups (2-5 children)

Additional Materials:

- optional: stickers

Adaptation: Read the main activity, watch the video, and follow the instructions above, with the following changes:

Give each child a picture card, face down on the table. Choose a word from the word list to say in “snail speech”:

Adult: I’m going to say a word like a snail.

Listen: El ... e ... phant.

Now you say it, like a snail.

Children: El ... e ... phant!

Adult: Now put the parts together. What’s the word?

Children: Elephant!

Adult: Yes, elephant. Now turn over your cards.

Who has the picture of elephant?

If a child has the elephant card, give her a sticker. If no one has the correct picture, the teacher fooled everyone and the teacher gets a sticker.