

G3: Mark the Misfit

Lesson Objective: Using five-item picture strips as aids, children will identify the beginning phoneme of each picture's spoken name and mark the picture that has a different beginning phoneme from the other four.

Materials

- picture strips and word index
- sound cards for the consonants
- checkers, paper squares, or game pieces to “mark” the misfit word on each word strip

Print out the picture strips and sound cards, preferably on sturdy card-stock paper, and cut them apart. The word index is for the adult's reference only.

Activity

Video: How to play Mark the Misfit

To start the game, select one of the picture strips and the sound card for the beginning sound of the target picture (on the left, in the pink box). Say the target word and show the sound card.

Adult: This picture is a mask. Mask starts with /mmm/.

Listen: mask starts with /mmm/. Say that.

Child: Mask starts with /mmm/.

Put the sound card down, but propped up against a block so it remains in the child's view. Repeat the target word, and say the names of the other four pictures on the strip.

Adult: Look at the other pictures: mail, mouse, dig, mug.

Name each picture as I point to it. Get ready.

Child: Mail, mouse, dig, mug.

Adult: Which one sounds different at the beginning?

G3: Mark the Misfit (continued)

Child: Um...

Adult: Listen: mail, mouse, dig, mug.

Which one sounds different at the beginning?

Child: Dig!

Adult: Good job.

Once the child has made his choice, he can put down a penny, paper square, or game piece on the picture with the “misfit” beginning sound. Continue playing for 15 minutes or until your child’s attention fades.

Small Groups (2-5 children)

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

Explain what the word misfit means. Play the game together to start. Place the letter sound card where everyone can see it. Name the pictures on the picture strip, and ask, “Which one sounds different at the beginning?”

When the children understand how to play, let them take turns choosing a picture strip. Ask the child to name the pictures on the card to make sure he knows what the objects are. Then ask, “Which one sounds different at the beginning?” Cover that picture with a marker. Exchange picture strips and repeat the game.