





Instructions for using compound word resource

This is a really useful resource for developing the foundations for literacy as it requires a child to segment a word into two parts, hold the sequence in their head and reassemble it. This is what we are asking children to do when we ask them to spell a word.

Explain to the child that you are going to make words in the speech bubble but you are going to use pictures instead of letters. They will need two pictures for each word. Make sure they know the name of each picture. Then give them a compound word to assemble. They have to find the correct two pictures and put them in the right order on the speech bubble:

Possible Compound words from this pack:

Lighthouse Firelight Fireman Snowman Snowball Fireball Boathouse Firewood Houseboat

Children can make two kinds of errors:

- Choosing the right pictures but putting them in the wrong order. This tells you that the child has not consistently established working left to right. If this happens, 'read' the word with the child working from left to right so they can see the sequence is incorrect and change it.
- Only choosing one of the two words. This tells you that they are not able to segment at the easiest possible level. When this happens, 'read' the first word and emphasise the second one they need. E.g. For "snowball", when the child just chooses the picture of 'snow', explain "We have got the first picture. Listen again - snow.....ball."