

## Phonological Awareness: **Blending Words**

**Description** Children hear and say the individual sounds in a word and then blend the sounds to say the word.

**You Need**

- ▶ Phonological Awareness Assessment–Individual Record form
- ▶ Phonological Awareness Assessment–Class Record form

**Why Use It** This assessment helps you learn whether children can take individual sounds and blend them together. This ability helps children take words apart to solve them. Some children will grasp this principle with only a few demonstrations. Use this assessment to determine how much experience children need in blending sounds.

**How to Use It**

- ▶ Administer this task individually so you can closely observe behaviour. Tell the child you are going to say the sounds of a word: "I will say the sounds of a word. Then you say the whole word smoothly." Use /m/-/ă/-/t/, *mat*, as an example. Continue with:

/h/-/ĭ/-/d/ [hid]

/w/-/ĭ/-/sh/ [wish]

/p/-/ö/-/t/ [pot]

/f/-/ē/-/t/ [feet]

/l/-/ö/-/k/ [look]

/t/-/ā/-/k/ [take]

/m/-/ō/-/n/ [moon]

/n/-/ü/-/t/ [nut]

/r/-/ă/-/p/ [rap]

/ch/-/ĭ/-/l/ [chill]

- ▶ Record results on the child's Individual Record. Consider the task mastered if a child can blend eight of the ten words.

**What to Notice**

- ▶ Ability to listen to and understand the task
- ▶ Ability to blend the sounds