

Mini Lesson

Teaching Students to Divide Syllables

Part 1

Say: Today we are going to learn how to identify consonants that should go together and consonants that should be separate even if they are together with other consonants.

Write (on the board): thoughtful

Say: Let's mark the word. Is there a "q" pattern? No. Is there a "gh" pattern? Yes. I circle the "ough" because it makes a special sound. Is there a "y" pattern? No. Is there a "w" pattern? No. Is there an "le" pattern? No. Is there an "r" pattern? No. Is there an "o" pattern? No. Is there a 3 vowel pattern? No. Is there a 2 vowel pattern? No. Is there a one vowel pattern? Yes. I mark the "u" short. Are there consonants that go together? Yes. I underline the "th" and the "t".

This is what we are going to look at today. Try to say the "tf" sound together. Now try to say the "br" sound together. It is so much easier to say "br" together. This is your first clue that "tf" does not go together. Think of a word that starts with "tf" or has a "tf" in the word. This is your second clue that "tf" does not go together. The correct way to mark these consonants would be to underline them separately and give each one its own sound. Now the word would be marked liked this: th(ough)t f ü l

Say: We will now look at another word.

Write (on the board): bellhop

Say: Who can tell me how to mark this word?

They will go through the steps and mark the "e" and the "o" short and then they will underline the llh. At this point ask the question:

Say: Can you easily pronounce "llh" together? Do you see words starting with "llh" or have "llh" in the middle or end? What combination do you see quite often?

Answer: "ll"

Say: So here you would underline the "ll" as one and the "h" separately. Then underline the "b" and the "p".

Say: Take a look at some books and find words that contain consonants that are together but you would separate because they are not easy to say together and they are not seen together on a regular basis.

I will put a couple of words on the board and you add to them when you find some.

Write (on board): liftgate boardwalk inverse boundless quietness

Say: Mark the words and remember when you get to the pattern, consonants that go together, to ask if you can say the sounds together easily or if you have seen that combination frequently in other words. If they do not go together, make sure you underline them separately.