



## Phonemic Awareness: Sound Segmentation

*The purpose of this activity is for students to identify the common phoneme in a group of three to four words, and determine whether the common phoneme is at the beginning or end.*

### Prepare

Use the word bank at the end of the activity.

### Warm-Up



Remember that words are made up of sounds. We're going to play a game in which we listen to all of the sounds in words and find what sound they have in common. Then we're going to find out **What's the Secret?** and determine whether their common sound is at the beginning or end of the word.

### Modeling

Listen closely. I am going to say three words. You must be a sound detective, and tell me what sound my three words have in common.

Do you think you can do that? Let's try: *sad, red, lid*. What sound do they have in common? Whisper the sound in your neighbor's ear.

Call on a student. **What sound do they have in common?**

**If Correct:** Very good. My words have /d/ in common. Where do we hear /d/ in the word? At the beginning, middle, or end of the word? *Students should respond* "at the end of the word."

**If Incorrect:** Let's think about it together. Do you hear /d/ in "sad?" Yes. Let's check if we also hear /d/ in the other words. Do you hear /d/ in "red?" Yes. Do you hear /d/ in "lid?" Yes. So what is the common sound in all three words?

To increase student engagement, pose the question first, provide wait time, and then call on individually selected students or on the whole group.

### Guided Practice



Now I'm going to say three more words: *ham, dim, same*.

What sound do these words have in common? Whisper the sound in your neighbor's ear. Give wait time, then call on the group. **What sound do they have in common?** Students should respond /m/. **Where do we hear /m/ in the word? At the beginning, middle, or end of the word?** Students should respond "at the end of the word."

Continue with other word groups.

# What's the Secret? Last Sound in Three-Phoneme Words

## Guided Practice *Continued*

**If Correct:** Great. My words have /m/ in common, and it is at the end of the word.

**If Incorrect:** Let's think about it together. Do you hear /m/ in "hammm?" Yes. Let's check if we also hear it in the other words. Do you hear /m/ in "dimmm?" Yes. Do you hear /m/ in "sAmmm?" Yes. So what is the common sound in all three words? *Students should respond /m/.* Where do we hear /m/ in the word? At the beginning, middle, or end of the word? *Students should respond "at the end of the word."*

## Word Bank



Words	Sound in common	Where is the common sound? (Beginning or end)
cheek, chalk, milk, talk	Correct: These words have /k/ in common	End
good, gum, glue, gut	Correct: These words have /g/ in common	Beginning
shell, gull, roll, hill	Correct: These words have /l/ in common	End
eighth, mouth, tooth, booth	Correct: These words have /th/ in common	End
chain, chin, church, cheese	Correct: These words have /ch/ in common	Beginning
third, thorn, thick, three	Correct: These words have /th/ in common	Beginning
beach, couch, pitch, rich	Correct: These words have /ch/ in common	End
them, whim, charm, wham	Correct: These words have /m/ in common	End
sock, sack, shock, sick	Correct: These words have /s/ in common	Beginning
fawn, goon, moon	Correct: These words have /n/ in common	End
cash, rush, dash, leash	Correct: These words have /sh/ in common	End

# What's the Secret? Last Sound in Three-Phoneme Words

## Word Bank *Continued*

Words	Sound in common	Where is the common sound? (Beginning or end)
oil, ball, wheel, seal	Correct: These words have /l/ in common	End
wheat, why, whip, when	Correct: These words have /wh/ in common	Beginning
dutch, witch, inch, teach	Correct: These words have /ch/ in common	End
shark, sheep, shore, shout	Correct: These words have /sh/ in common	Beginning
wrist, wrong, write, wrap	Correct: These words have /r/ in common	Beginning
oath, mirth, with, north	Correct: These words have /th/ in common	End
sash, gash, cash, lash	Correct: These words have /sh/ in common	End
ring, sing, long, wing	Correct: These words have /ng/ in common	End
elk, ink, knack, sack	Correct: These words have /k/ in common	End

## Wrap-Up



You practiced telling me which sound that different words have in common and whether the common sound was at the beginning or the end of the words. Great listening, sound detectives!