

## Words with Final Consonant Blends

Consonant blends are two or more consonants together in which each consonant is pronounced, with no vowel sounds between. Final consonant blends can be challenging to decode because the match between the spoken and written forms is not perfect. Students who pronounce *left* as *lef*, for example, or have difficulty hearing /m/ in *jump*, need their attention drawn to each consonant sound and its letter. Attending to final blends helps students decode words that end with *sk, sp, st, mp, nd, nk, nt, ld, lf, lk, lp, lt, ct, ft, or pt*.

### Step By Step 10–15 minutes

#### 1 Introduce final consonant blends.

- Explain that some words end with more than one consonant sound.
- Direct students to listen as you say a pair of words that begin alike but end differently. You can use examples such as the following.

*gas/gasp tack/task duck/duct den/dent bell/belt pup/pump ten/tend*

- Have students say the word in each pair that ends with more than one consonant sound.

#### 2 Model blending words with final consonant blends.

- Display words such as the following, one at a time.

*tint past camp band gift bulk*

- Run your finger under the letters from left to right, saying one sound for each letter, and blending smoothly. Then say the word naturally.
- Use the word in an oral sentence to show its meaning.

#### 3 Provide practice with sound blending.

- Display words such as the following, one at a time.

*desk dust gasp golf bilk tilt bent bend pact*

- Run your finger under the letters, from left to right, as students blend the sounds.
- Ask, *What is the word? Can you show or tell what the word means?*

#### 4 Provide practice with word sorts.

- Prepare a set of 12–20 word cards for each student or group. The words should include 3 or 4 different final blends. Use the word list **Words with Final Consonant Blends** (page 3) to select words with final consonant blends that are appropriate for your students.
- Have students sort the words by final consonant blend. Have them read the words and discuss the meaning of each word.

**Support Special Education Students** As an alternative to having each student read the words they have sorted, add interaction by having them work with a partner. One student says a word and the other holds up the matching word card.

### Check for Understanding

If you observe...	Then try...
difficulty blending final consonant sounds	providing the part of the word that begins with the vowel (the phonogram, or rime). Have students add initial consonants and listen for the shared ending sounds. Possible phonograms include <i>ank, amp, est, ink, ump, unk</i> .
confusion about variant vowel sounds in words with final blends	pointing out vowels that are influenced by the blend that follows, such as <i>ost</i> in <i>most</i> ; <i>ind</i> in <i>find</i> ; <i>ild</i> in <i>wild</i> ; <i>ald/alt</i> in <i>bald</i> and <i>salt</i> ; <i>old/olt</i> in <i>old</i> and <i>colt</i> . Help students make lists of key words that trigger associations.

## Words with Final Consonant Blends

This word list includes CVCC words with short vowels and final consonant blends. Choose words and levels of difficulty that match your students' needs and abilities.

<b>ct</b>	duct	fact	pact	sect	tact	
<b>ft</b>	deft	gift	heft	left	lift	loft
	raft	rift	sift	soft	tuft	
<b>ld</b>	gild	held	weld			
<b>lf</b>	golf	gulf	self			
<b>lk</b>	bulk	milk	silk	sulk		
<b>lp</b>	gulp	help	kelp	pulp	yelp	
<b>lt</b>	belt	cult	felt	hilt	jilt	lilt
	melt	pelt	quilt	silt	tilt	welt
	wilt					
<b>mp</b>	bump	camp	damp	dump	hump	jump
	lamp	lump	pump	ramp	rump	romp
	tamp	wimp				
<b>nd</b>	band	bend	bond	fond	fund	hand
	land	lend	mend	pond	sand	pend
	send	tend	vend	wend	wind	
<b>nk</b>	bank	bonk	bunk	conk	dunk	gunk
	hank	honk	hunk	junk	kink	link
	mink	pink	punk	rank	rink	sank
	sink	sunk	tank	wink	yank	
<b>nt</b>	bent	bunt	dent	hint	hunt	lent
	lint	mint	pant	punt	rant	rent
	runt	sent	tent	tint	vent	went
<b>pt</b>	kept	rapt	wept			
<b>sk</b>	bask	cask	desk	disk	dusk	husk
	mask	musk	risk	task	tusk	
<b>sp</b>	cusp	gasp	lisp	rasp	wisp	
<b>st</b>	best	bust	cast	cost	dust	fast
	fist	gust	jest	just	last	list
	lost	mast	mist	must	nest	pest
	quest	rest	rust	test	vast	vest
	west	zest				