

Word Chaining with Short 'a'

Purpose: strengthen word-reading fluency

READING WORDS

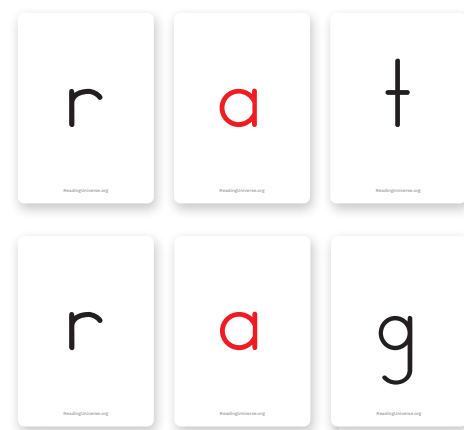
In this activity, teachers will turn short words into new words by changing a single letter or sound, and students will read the words.

Materials:

- set of lowercase letter cards: set of lowercase letter cards: a, b, d, e, f, g, h, i, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u, w

Directions:

- Select the letter cards needed to build all the words in the lesson. (If students need to review the letter sounds prior to reading words, do a quick warm-up with the cards.)
- Build a word with the letter cards (for example, *rat*) and make sure all students can see the word. You can do this with a pocket chart, document camera, whiteboard, etc.
- Say, "Let's make the sounds together and then read the word: /r/, /ă/, /t/, *rat*."
- Switch the word by placing a new letter on top of an existing letter. For instance, place a 'g' on top of the 't' to turn *rat* into *rag*.
- Have students, as a group, say the sounds in the word if they need that level of scaffolding (/r/, /ă/, /g/, *rag*). Otherwise just have the group read the new word.
- Remember to discuss word meanings all along the way!



Word Chaining Example

original word

r a t

substitution

r a g

substitution

b a g

substitution

t a g

5 Word Chains with Short 'a'

Short 'a' only	Short 'a' and Short 'i'
<p>rat</p> <p>rag</p> <p>bag</p> <p>tag</p> <p>tap</p> <p>map</p> <p>mad</p> <p>sad</p> <p>sat</p> <p>hat</p>	<p>pat</p> <p>rat</p> <p>rag</p> <p>rig</p> <p>wig</p> <p>wag</p> <p>bag</p> <p>bat</p> <p>bit</p> <p>pit</p> <p>pin</p> <p>pan</p>
<p>VOCABULARY NOTE:</p> <p>rat: A <i>rat</i> is a small animal like a mouse. However, it is bigger than a mouse.</p> <p>map: A <i>map</i> is a representation of a place or area. I use a <i>map</i> on my phone to drive to my grandma's house. The globe is a <i>map</i> of the world.</p> <p>tag: A <i>tag</i> is something in your clothing that tells you the size and type of fabric. <i>Tag</i> is also a game we can play at recess.</p>	<p>VOCABULARY NOTE:</p> <p>rot: I left the banana out on the counter too long and it began to <i>rot</i>. It became all black and a little moldy. When trees fall down, they begin to <i>rot</i>.</p> <p>rag: A <i>rag</i> is a torn piece of cloth. I used a wet <i>rag</i> to clean the counter.</p> <p>wag: <i>Wag</i> is to move back and forth. When the dog's tail is <i>wagging</i>, he is happy. Look at the dog <i>wag</i> his tail!</p>

5 Word Chains with Short 'a'

Short 'a' and Short 'u'	Short 'a' and Short 'o'
nut	hat
hut	hot
hat	not
had	rot
dad	rat
mad	rag
mud	lag
mug	log
rug	fog
rag	
<p>VOCABULARY NOTE:</p> <p>nut: A <i>nut</i> is a seed. For example, peanuts are <i>nuts</i>. So are almonds and walnuts.</p> <p>hut: A <i>hut</i> is a small home, usually made of one room. An igloo is an example of a <i>hut</i>.</p> <p>mug: A <i>mug</i> is a cup with a handle. I drink coffee from a <i>mug</i>.</p>	<p>VOCABULARY NOTE:</p> <p>lag: When you are far behind the group, you <i>lag</i> behind. Don't <i>lag</i> behind our line as we walk to recess.</p> <p>fog: <i>Fog</i> is like a low-hanging cloud that makes the air look hazy. You cannot see far away when there is <i>fog</i>.</p>

5 Word Chains with Short 'a'

Short 'a' and Short 'e'

ten

ben

beg

bag

bat

bet

set

let

leg

lag

lap

lad

led

VOCABULARY NOTE:

beg: To *beg* is to ask for something. I *beg* my mom to let me play outside.

lad: A *lad* is another word for a boy. We don't hear that word often in this country. But you can call a boy a *lad*. The three *lads* played ball together.



a

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b

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